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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Provost of Bruges: a Tragedy, in Five Acts. London, 1836. 8vo, pp. 98. Macrone. In the Dedication to him, and in the Preface, the author pays a just tribute, not only to the masterly performance of Macready, but to the kindness which encouraged, the judgment which corrected, and the genius which filled up his own imperfect outline of this tragedy. It is a grateful confession, and does honour to both parties; and not the less as it comes from one whose production proves that his praise is worthy of being valued. The Provost of Bruges, however greatly, is not altogether indebted to the acting, for its successful reception from the intellectual lovers of the drama. In itself it boasts of many beauties; and, besides the stirring interests of the story, possesses merits to transfer the applause of the theatre to the closet. Witness such passages as these:—

"Bouchard. 'Tis thus for ever that ill-judging zeal
Goads virtue into vice. 'Tis but degree
That marks the storm from the propitious gale,
The torrent from the fertilising stream."

The opening of the second scene, so sweetly poetical—

"A magnificent Chamber in the Château of BERTULPHE.
CONSTANCE discovered seated at a window, through which
the sun is seen setting.
Const. (touching it.) How fast he sinks, that glorious
orb of light!

To see him seated on his mid-day throne,
Who but had deem'd him fix'd for ever there,
So high, so proudly rode he o'er the world.
And is it thus with love? whose early beam
Shines out as full of promise, as it never
Could know decline. Has love its setting, too?
Look! now he fades—and now—he's gone!—poor world!
But poorer heart, whose light of love is sped.
A few small clouds are lingering in his place,
Bright with contending dyes,—call these ambition,
Fame, glory—vapours that usurp Love's seat,
And shine awhile with a fictitious splendour
When he is gone—then follow into darkness.
There ends the likeness! the departed sun
Will ride again as bright a course to-morrow;
But love, once set, can know no second rising.
Alas! I'm wondrous sad to-day."

And so is her gallant husband, Bouchard,
who, when tasked with it, answers finely—

"Bouch. If aught displeases thee,
Then all is ill:—yet say I am not merry,
The fit will pass,—the sooner if unmark'd.
That were a barren clime where all was sun;
And the heart needs these little shades of care
To feel its bliss as bliss."

The noble sentiments of the Provost, on the
subject of human bondage, is shortly but power-
fully expressed in a few lines:—

"Bertulphe. Fie! fie!
A man's a man; nor can another claim
The right to buy, sell, or inherit him,
Because he sprang from off a lower branch
Of the great tree:—yet this is but a part.
He who would have one fellow for his slave,
Soon, step by step, would fetter all mankind."

And his definition of his own ambition is equally
true and philosophical:—

"Bertulphe. Remember, power
Is to the old what love is to the young;
And both are jealous, if their mistress frowns,
To keep the gossip from the prating world."

These morsels afford but an inadequate idea
of the general pith and marrow of the composi-
tion, and we must in justice add a longer
example, though still but brief. The second
scene of the second act thus opens:—

"Enter CONSTANCE and USULA.

Const. Nay, my good Ursula, I pray thee chide not;
There is a sadness of no kin to sorrow,
And such alone is mine. Is it not sad,
And yet how sweet, to sit in some close nook,
And hear the big rain patter on the trees?
Or, listlessly, in some cool dell's recess,
To mark the babbling of the tiny brook?
Or, from the casement, watch the fading day
Tinge, with its changeable pencil, the gray clouds?
When, if by chance we sigh, 'tis but to ease
The heart o'erburden'd with its sweet sensations!

Urs. Nonsense for school-girls! If you had told me this
A year ago, I could have understood it; but now—pish!
Const. Prithee, good Ursula, rack not thy wits to find a
Cause for that which is not.

Urs. Nay, but I say it is; and for the cause—I know
that too. It is thy good knight's absence that has chafed
thee, and he shall hear it; for, at last, he is coming.
What is the earl, that he should leave his wife to dangle
in his court? 'I'll speak my mind on't.

Const. Ursula! Peace!

Enter BOUCHARD.

Urs. Well, Sir Bouchard, you have come in a good
hour! Marry, sir, 'tis well done with a three months'
bride to leave her moping thus! Were I your wife, I'd
teach you better manners. There, go and make your
peace. [To Const.] You will not need me now. [Exit.

Const. Love, heed her not;
She speaks at random, but she means it kindly.
Bouch. Has Constance, then, been sad?

Const. To say I have not
Would scarce be truth; and yet, to say I have,
Would make me blush to seem so weak a child.

Bouch. Nay, then, thou hast been sad; which, being
confess'd,
I claim to know the cause.

Const. You will but mock me:
'Twas but the offspring of a sickly fancy,—
A silly fear, not worth another thought.

Bouch. It was a fear then?
Const. Yes—a heavy sadness
That sat upon my heart, converting all things
On which I look'd, to evil auguries.

Last night, when o'er the sickly studied sky
The fleecy clouds would ever and anon
Eclipse the gems of heaven, I mark'd one star
That twinkled in its sphere so joyously,
The pitying vapours, as in tenderness,
Forebore that part of heaven—and pass'd along
On either side, leaving an open path
Where that star lay; and, as I look'd on it,
And thought upon my own unclouded life,
I call'd that star myself; when, on the instant,
A heavy streak, that hid in ambush lain,
Crept over it, and made a blot of darkness
Where it had been. I saw my star no more!
You do not smile, Bouchard?

Bouch. I cannot smile

At that which makes thee sad; yet 'twas a folly.

Const. There was a flower, too, in my father's garden,
So weak and helpless, that some gentle hand
Had doubly prop'd its stem; and oft I said
That plant was Constance, and its strong supporters
You and my father. With this morning's dawn
I sought it out; but both its props were broken,
And the poor flower, that still clung closely to them,
Lay with them in the dust.

Bouch. This is mere weakness:

Give it no further thought. To-night, I warrant,
Thy star shall shine again as bright as ever;
And, for the other,—go now to thy flower,
And see how soon thine own hand can restore
its fallen glories. So, thyself, unread
Thine evil auguries. I will join thee soon—
Then will we find diversion: we will read,
Or idly wander through the forest-glade,
Or watch the eagle sailing in the clouds,
Reduced by distance to so small a speck.
The flower that decks thy hair can shut it out;
And we will say that so each thought of care,
Cast to a distance, is become a speck
The little flower of the passing moment
Can quite shut from our view.
I will expect you:—
But do not tarry."

From this period, the action of the piece keeps
it much apart from poetical ornament; but there
is, what the acted drama must most rely on,
strong passion, and vivid flashes of expression.
We close, however, with our poetical illustra-

tions; and the soliloquy of the Provost over his
insane but sleeping daughter is a touching
instance.

"She sleeps,—her body sleeps,—and every vein
Through her transparent skin throbs as it used;—
But the pure mind—the all-informing soul,
That gave that form its worth—where does that sleep,
That all a father's agony of love
Calls after it in vain? With but a touch
I can recall their functions to those limbs:—
The eyes shall see, ears hear, and even the lips
Murmur their poor, sad, unconnected sounds;
But oh! thou glorious soul, where art thou fled?—
That all my tears, my prayers, and frenzied cries,
Cannot awake one touch of thee? Poor flower!
So delicate and fragile in thy beauty,
The earliest blast that touch'd thee, blighted thee!"

Such are among the merits of the Provost of
Bruges, in which, as in Werner, Macready,
surmounting all the prejudices of schools and
partisanisms, has forced from the most re-
luctant the warmest acknowledgments of his
transcendent talents. Energy, discrimination,
power, and pathos, were never more gloriously
combined, never more affectingly delineated.
The proud statesman, the hater to the death, the
spirit stricken in his highest soaring, the afflicted
parent, the bereaved and the despairing
old man, are all portrayed with matchless skill.

On Wednesday, we see by the papers, a son
was born to him at Elstree. May he be a hap-
piness to him in private life, and may the public
(another generation) look forward in hope
for a worthy representative of the representa-
tive of the Provost of Bruges!

1. The Great Roll of the Exchequer of the Thirty-first Year of Henry the First. 2. The Chancellor's Roll of the Third Year of King John.

[Second Notice.]
ACCORDING to the ancient constitution of the
exchequer, described in our last, the scribe of
the chancellor's roll was required to preserve a
minute correspondence between it and that of
the treasurer; but this regulation, introduced,
probably, with a view to render the accounts
more correct, one instrument acting as a check
upon the other, was not always observed, and
variations of some importance may occasionally
be detected. The chancellor's rolls being con-
sidered as mere transcripts of original docu-
ments yet existing, are not required for legal
evidence, and the active exertions of the com-
missioners on the public records have procured
their removal to the library of the British
Museum, where they can be consulted with
the same facility as any other manuscripts pre-
served in that establishment: although the
series is by no means complete, the importance
of opening the contents of a collection of rolls,
extending from the reign of Henry II. to the
time of James I., is too obvious to need any
remark.

As we began our extracts from the great
roll of Henry the First, with an account of the
payments made by the sheriffs of London, we
cannot do better than present our readers with
a portion of the account of the citizens of
London in the third year of King John.

"The citizens of London, Simon of Alder-
manbury and William Fitz-Alice for them,

render account of 300*l.* for the farm of London and Middlesex. In the treasury, 128*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*"

And they had paid to "Aucher, the servant of the Earl of Ponthieu, 20*s.* And in the expense of carrying Ysolt de Ferrers and other prisoners from London to Northampton, and in the necessities of the servants toward them, 10*s.* And in the cost of carrying two approvers through divers places, 20*s.* * * * And to Clement, son of William, 23*s.*, to pay for the rushes for the king's houses at Westminster against his second coronation, by the writ of G. Fitz-Peter. And to Alulf de Corier' and Guy de L'Isle, the messengers of the Prince of Antioch, 6 marks, of the king's gift. * * *

And in the works of the king's gaul of the Fleet, 15*l.* 10*s.* * * * And to Ralph, the clerk, and Adam de Bradeley, 55*s.*, which they expended in leading the 18 hostages of Brittany and their masters from London to Shoreham, and in their expenses during three weeks, by the writ of G. Fitz-Peter. And to Otho the Little, 18 marks, for 2 marks of gold, which he expended upon the king's small crown. And for repairing the bridge at Westminster, 3 marks. * * * And for carrying the king's regalia and jewels from London to Winchester, 5*s.* And to the constable of the Tower, and William de Saint Michael and Nicholas Duket, 12*s.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, for scarlet, and for three cloaks of silken stuff, and one grey pelisse, and one robe of green, and for other necessities for the queen's use. * * * And for cloth bought for the exchequer (*scaccarium*) in the chamber of the barons."

The Earl of Ponthieu, mentioned in this extract, was William III. who had married Alice, the repudiated wife of Richard the First, and sister of Philip Augustus of France. The entry relating to the approvers is very curious; an approver, according to Blackstone, was a person who, indicted of treason or felony, and arraigned for the same, confessed the fact before pleading, and appealed or accused others, his accomplices, of the same crime, in order to obtain his pardon; and if the party accused had no legal and reasonable exceptions to make to the person of the approver, he was obliged to put himself upon his trial, either by battle or by the country, and, if vanquished or found guilty, suffered judgment; but if, on the contrary, he conquered or was acquitted, the approver was hanged, upon his own confession of the indictment. We may add, that it was by no means necessary, nor does it appear to have been invariably required, that the approver should have been actually a party to the crime of which he accused others; he was frequently a mere informer, acting with a view to obtain a reward, or to gratify the dictates of revenge, although still subject to the punishment of death, if the person accused were acquitted or himself vanquished in the duel. The king could have no objection to such a system, because in either case he obtained the property of the convicted party, and many entries on this roll lead us to believe that John had a considerable number of approvers in his pay. The rushes were used for that purpose until so late a time as the reign of Elizabeth, although the rich carpets of the East were to be found on the Continent in the fourteenth century. The Prince of Antioch, whose messengers were so well rewarded, was, probably, Bohemond the Third, who died in 1201; but there is no mention in William of Tyre of any negotiation between him and the King of England. The hostages of Brittany were those given by Arthur when he did homage to his uncle for that duchy, in

the year 1200. The item for cloth purchased for the exchequer, in the chamber of the barons, refers to the striped covering of the table described in our last; the cloth itself was sometimes called a *scaccarium*, and used for other purposes than those it answered in the exchequer: at the coronation of Richard I. six earls and barons supported a *scaccarium*, upon which were placed the royal insignia and robes. This cloth was provided twice in the year.

Under the oblate we see that the citizens of London gave one good tun of wine, and one good palfrey of 100*s.* for a duplicate of their charter, and the enormous sum of 3000 marks, or 30,000*l.*, to have the king's confirmation of their liberties. The dean and chapter of London render account of two palfreys, for protection, so that they may not be disturbed contrary to their liberties. The mines of Cornwall were not very profitable in the time of John; they appear to have farmed for 100 marks, or 1000*l.* of the present day. The account for Surrey furnishes our next extract.

"In repairing the king's houses at Guildford, 6*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* And for carrying the king's wines from London to Guildford, and in loading and unloading them, 26*s.* 6*d.* And for carrying Anfrid, the seneschal of the Earl of Eu, the king's prisoner, to Corfe, 2 marks and a half. And in the repairs of the gaul in the castle of Guildford, 4*s.*"

John celebrated the festival of Christmas at Guildford in the year 1200; hence the item for carrying wine to that town. The seneschal of the Earl of Eu was taken at the battle of Mirebeau, and the fact of his having been conveyed to Corfe supports the account, given in the Margan Annals, of the confinement of the prisoners in that fortress, where, according to the same authority, they were starved to death; this seneschal, however, was subsequently liberated upon the payment of a fine. Another passage in those Annals derives a very remarkable confirmation from entries on this roll: in the year 1201 the annalist notices "a frequent inundation of the rains, continuing from Pentecost to the Nativity of Saint Mary; it not only prevented the corn and the fruits of the trees from ripening, but even rendered them unfruitful. A mortality of animals followed, and chiefly of the sheep, such as no living man remembered to have seen before." The veracity of this relation is proved by the account for Oxfordshire: we find that William Briewer had paid "In the purchase of hay for the support of the wild animals in the park of Woodstock, 60*s.*, by the king's writ, in this year, because the hay, which was wont to be brought from Oxford to Woodstock every year, perished in this year by the inundations of the waters." And the observation as to the mortality among sheep is corroborated by an item of 40*s.* for the purchase of 400 sheep, to supply the decrease in the stock of the manor of Hedenden, in the same county, and by a like expenditure made in other parts of the country. In the account for Norfolk and Suffolk we find the following entries:—

"For 300 measures of corn bought to send to the King of Norway, of the king's gift, 33*l.* 15*s.* And to 11 servants on foot, and one servant on horseback, of their pay for 20 days, when they were sent to the King of Norway, and to Serlo, son of Adam, who had the aforesaid servants in his custody, 60*s.* And in the cost of taking the aforesaid servants and the aforesaid corn into Norway in two ships, 12*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* And for shipping the aforesaid corn and the harness of the aforesaid servants, 10*s.* 2*d.* And for irons for prisoners, 12*d.*

And in the cost of leading one prisoner from Ipswich to Saint Edmund's, 12*d.* And in the wages of the aforesaid servants, 10*l.*"

In the year 1201 Norway was a province of Denmark, and this corn was, in all probability, sent to Canute VI. surnamed the Pious, king of Denmark, who died on the 12th of November, 1202, a prince who had always maintained a friendly intercourse with England.

Lampreys were in great request with our Norman sovereigns. Henry the First hastened his death by eating too plentifully of them; and they continued to form one of the greatest delicacies of the royal table until a late period. This fish was procured from the Severn; and we have seen many curious writs of the time of Henry the Third respecting the care to be observed in sending fresh salmon and lampreys to the king. The folks of Gloucester appear to have had some such mandate:—

"The men of Gloucester render account of 40 marks to have the king's favour, because they did not obey him concerning his lampreys. In the treasury, 20 marks, and they owe 20 marks."

The Preface states that these additional words occur on the treasurer's roll, "so he (the king) ordered." This was paying dearly for neglecting to supply the king's favourite dish; 40 marks may be estimated at 400*l.*, a sum that John might have preferred to the fish. We learn from a passage in the Northampton account that the head of an outlaw was valued at one shilling; "to the servants who brought the heads of six outlaws, 6*s.*;" and a man was paid to catch this peculiar species of game. The hunter who took wolves in Worcestershire received 3*s.* William de Stuteville renders account of 1000 marks to be appointed sheriff of Yorkshire; and "the citizens of York account for 100*l.* to have the king's benevolence for that they did not meet him on his coming to York; and that they may be acquitted in respect that they did not entertain the king's crossbowmen, and to have acquittance of the hostages which the king required from them during his pleasure." In the early part of John's reign, there was a contest between Roger of Saint Edmund's and one Master Honorius respecting the archdeaconry of Richmond. Hoveden informs us that Honorius was appointed by the archbishop of York in 1198; the dean protested against his installation; and, in the interim, Roger appears to have been appointed by King Richard: he was certainly confirmed in that benefice by John, in the first year of his reign; yet we learn from this roll that Roger of Saint Edmund's fined in 300 marks to have two pairs of letters patent, one to be directed to the clergy of the archdeaconry, commanding them to receive him as their archdeacon, the other to the sheriff of Yorkshire and his bailiffs, ordering them to protect him from injury either on the part of clerk or layman; and he paid also 100*l.* that he might exercise his right against Honorius, who had fined in 300 marks to have the king's letters of protection, and for permission to enjoy his right to the same archdeaconry. The business is said to have been amicably settled; however that may have been, two entries on the patent and close rolls clearly prove that Honorius continued to bear the title of archdeacon of Richmond. In the seventh year of his reign, John despatched him on a mission to the court of Rome, and, at the same time, sent letters to the clergy of the archdeaconry, directing them to obey his official during his absence: two years after this he appears to have been in disgrace, since the

king sent a writ to R. de Vipont, telling him that, among his other debtors in the county of York, Master Honorius, archdeacon of Richmond, owed him 300 marks and a palfrey, for his letters of protection, and commanding the same R. de Vipont to seize and sell so much of the property of the said Honorius as would make up the debt, and to seize and detain his person. We may, perhaps, conclude that the fine mentioned was the one recorded on the roll now under consideration; and we are strongly inclined to believe that Honorius succeeded Roger of Saint Edmund's in the archdeaconry—a fact of which Le Neve had no knowledge.

Having thus presented our readers with some of the miscellaneous information contained in these volumes, we now proceed to consider the design entertained by the commission, of printing the treasurer's rolls for the reign of Henry II. and his sons. The importance of these records is but relative, and depends upon their being considered as a series in which each document is dependent on, and inseparable from, its companions. It would be impossible to make a selection from them, consistent with utility; and the volume we have just examined presents an instance of the impropriety of publishing any single roll. Many important entries are rendered unintelligible by a reference being made to the roll of the preceding year; for instance, in the account for Northumberland, the following entries are found in one place:—

"William, son of Adam, renders account of 10l. and one palfrey, or five marks, to have an inquisition like as it is contained in the preceding roll. Simon Fitz-John, six marks, like as it is contained in the preceding roll." * * * Robert Bertram renders account of two marks, to have his plea in the king's court, like as it is contained in the preceding roll." Now, these persons were of great note in the county, and, were we desirous to ascertain the nature of the inquisitions and pleas mentioned, it would be necessary to consult the original treasurer's roll for the foregoing year, or to refer to Mr. Hodgson's History of Northumberland, in which the portions of these rolls relating to that county are printed. We could crowd our columns with similar examples, proving the necessity of printing the series for each reign; but the publication should be subject to certain restrictions. Of the chancellor's rolls, now in the Museum, there are a few for the reign of Henry the Second, none for the reign of Richard, and only three for that of John, viz. those of the 4th, 10th, and 17th years of his reign. Under these circumstances it would not be expedient to print all the treasurer's rolls for these reigns; but those only of the time of Henry the Third, of which the corresponding chancellor's rolls are missing. By this means a great expense would be avoided, and the connection between the rolls in the Museum once more restored. The writing is sufficiently intelligible, and those who may think them worth consulting will not object to the slight inconvenience of turning over the membranes of which they are composed. To this it may be objected that important variations occur between the treasurer's and chancellor's rolls. The learned and anonymous editor of the volume before us has given himself much trouble, to little purpose, in endeavouring to establish a case; but his proofs are, generally speaking, very trifling, and he must pardon us if we presume to observe, that the correspondence between the two is sufficiently minute. Moreover, it appears to us that the editors of the volumes, which have suggested these remarks,

are by no means qualified, judging from their respective labours, to concoct a general preface to the series; and we put it to the commissioners, whether it would not be advisable to employ some able person to translate the "Dialogue concerning the Exchequer," which might be prefixed to the first volume of the rolls; and, as it contains the only authentic account of the ancient constitution of the court, would amply supply the place of a rambling introductory discourse, in which, from present appearances, we may expect to find every thing alluded to styled important, and finally left as it was found. It is to be hoped that a table of the numerous contractions will be prepared—an addition that would materially facilitate the perusal of the work; and it may, perhaps, be advisable to abandon the plan of arranging the index of places according to counties, by which great inconvenience is occasioned, and no useful object attained. To conclude, we trust that sufficient care will be observed in passing the sheets through the press, to avoid the necessity of subjoining a list of errata, at the best but an unsightly "tail," presenting a very suspicious appearance, when connected with volumes presumed, at least, to be edited by learned and distinguished professors of this department of literature.*

The Tin Trumpet, or Heads and Tales for the Wise and Waggish; to which are added Poetical Selections. By the late Paul Chatfield, M.D. Edited by Jefferson Saunders, Esq. 2 vols. 12mo. London. 1836, Whitaker and Co.

To whomsoever we are indebted for the concoction of these volumes, we owe thanks for a very clever collection of scraps, and much amusing as well as instructive reading. We need not point out or care for the origin of the title, a *tin-trumpet* used by Dr. Chatfield as the president of certain social meetings at Harrogate; it will be enough for us to extract from it some of the most *chatty* and entertaining illustrations. Neither shall we meddle with the politics or religious opinions broached by the worthy M.D., further than to notice that his politics are of the Radical stamp, and his religion very hostile to the church establishment.

Of his *faciès* we may observe, that there is confessedly no want of trite and well-known jests, nor of venerable jokes from the illustrious Joe Miller, alias *Josephus Molitor*; but even these are often well bolstered up by the manner in which they are repeated, and we relish them almost as much as if they were novelties. Others are of less notoriety, and obtained from a number of various sources, ancient and modern; the whole alphabetically arranged under *heads*—sometimes brief *jeux d'esprit*, and sometimes *tales*, as indicated by the title. The graver remarks often display acuteness and ability, and are expressed in terse and forcible language; of all which we now proceed to offer specimens from the first volume.

We begin with an early example, *ab*.—
"Abscess—a morbid tumour, frequently growing above the shoulders, and swelling to a considerable size, when it comes to a head with nothing in it. It is not always a natural disease, for nature abhors a vacuum; yet fools, fops, and fanatics, are very subject to it, and it sometimes attacks old women of both sexes. I wish to consult you upon a little project I

* On Thursday, a parliamentary committee was appointed to investigate the important subject of the Record Commission, and the publications thence proceeding, which will bring the matter more fully before us.—*Ed. L. G.*

have formed," said a noodle to his friend, 'I have an idea in my head.'—'Have you?' interposed the friend, with a look of great surprise; 'then you shall have my opinion at once: keep it there!—it may be some time before you get another.'

Illustrating the words "*Absolute Government*," our author says:—

"Few modern despots can calculate on being so fortunate as the Turk, Mustapha, who, having rebelled against his brother, was taken prisoner, and ordered for execution on the following morning. The sultan, however, being suddenly seized with the colic, accompanied, perhaps, with some fraternal, as well as internal qualms, ordered the decapitation to be deferred for two days, during which he died, and his imprisoned brother quietly succeeded to the throne. 'O happy Mustapha!' exclaimed the sultaness, 'you were born to be lucky, for you have not only derived life from your mother's stomach, but from your brother's!'"

The following, under the word "*Accomplishments*," is equally just and agreeable:—

"Some there are who, deeming dissolute manners an accomplishment, endeavour to shew by their profligacy that they know the world; an example which might be dangerous, but that the world knows them. Accomplishments are sociable—but nothing so sociable as a cultivated mind."

The definition of an "*Angler*" is very different from that recognised by the Walton Club, namely, "*Angler*—a fish-butcher—a piscatory assassin—a Jack Ketch—catcher of jack, an impaler of live worms, frogs, and flies, a torturer of trout, a killer of carp, and a great gudgeon, who sacrifices the best part of his life in taking away the life of a little gudgeon. Every thing appertaining to the angler's art is cowardly, cruel, treacherous, and cat-like. He is a professional dealer in 'treasons, stratagems, and plots;' more subtle and sneaking than a poacher, and more exclusively devoted to snares, traps, and subterfuges; he is at the same time infinitely more remorseless, finding amusement and delight in prolonging, to the last gasp, the agonies of the impaled bait, and of the wretched fish writhing with a barb in its entrails."

"Averse," the writer continues, "as we are from extending the sphere of the angler's cruelty, we will mention one fish which old Izaak himself had never caught. A wealthy tradesman having ordered a fish-pond at his country-house to be cleared out, the foreman discovered, at the bottom, a spring of feruginous-coloured water; and, on returning to the house, told his employer that they had found a chalybeate. 'I am glad of it,' exclaimed the worthy citizen, 'for I never saw one. Put it in the basket with the other fish, and I'll come and look at it presently.'"

The "*Antiquary*" fares little better than the Angler, for he is "too often a collector of valuables that are worth nothing, and a recollector of all that Time has been glad to forget. His choice specimens have become rarities, simply because they were never worth preserving; and he attaches present importance to them in exact proportion to their former insignificance. A worthy of this unworthy class was once edifying the French Academy with a most unmerciful detail of the comparative prices of commodities at various remote periods, when La Fontaine observed, 'Our friend knows the value of every thing,—except time.'"

Our great theatres justify the following:—

"Audience—a crowd of people in a large theatre, so called because they cannot hear. The actors speak to them with their hands and feet, and the spectators listen to them with their eyes."

So much for letter A: now for B, which calls the *Bar* to the Bar, and is not sparing of that most prosperous profession, so rich in commissionerships, recorderships, judgeships, chancellorships, and other naval promotions. *Ex. gr.:*—

"*Bar.—Independence of the.*—Like a ghost—a thing much talked of, and seldom seen. If a barrister profess any professional or moral independence, it cannot be worth much, for a few guineas will generally purchase it. It must be confessed, that he is singularly independent of all those scruples which operate upon the consciences of other men. Right and wrong, truth or falsehood, morality or profligacy, are all equally indifferent to him. Dealing in law, not justice, his brief is his bible, the ten guineas of his retaining fee are his decalogue: his glory, like that of a cook-maid, consists in wearing a silk gown, and his heaven is in a judge's wig. Head, heart, conscience, body, and soul, all are for sale: the forensic bravo stands to be hired by the highest bidder, ready to attack those whom he has just defended, or defend those whom he has just attacked, according to the orders he may receive from his temporary master. Looking to the favour of the judge for favour with their clients, and to the government for professional promotion, barristers have too often been the abject lickspittles of the one, and the supple tools of the other. M. de la B—, a French gentleman, seems to have formed a very correct notion of the independence of the bar. Having invited several friends to dine on a *maigre* day, his servant brought him word that there was only a single salmon left in the market, which he had not dared to bring away, because it had been bespoken by a barrister.—'Here,' said his master, putting two or three pieces of gold into his hand, 'Go back directly, and buy me the barrister and the salmon too.'

"*Barrister*—a legal servant of all work. One who sometimes makes his gown a cloak for browbeating and putting down a witness, who, but for this protection, might occasionally knock down the barrister. Shew me the conscientious counsellor, who, refusing to hire out his talents that he may screen the guilty, overreach the innocent, defraud the orphan, or impoverish the widow, will scrupulously decline a brief, unless the cause of his client wear at least a semblance of honesty and justice;—who will leave knaves and robbers to the merited inflictions of the law, while he will cheerfully exert his eloquence and skill in redressing the wrongs of the injured. Shew me such a phoenix of a barrister, and I will admit that he richly deserves—not to have been at the bar! All briefless barristers will please to consider themselves excepted from the previous censure, for I should be really sorry to speak ill of any man *without a cause*."

To this we may add,—

"*Burglary.*—If the burglar who craftily examines a house or a shop, to see how he may best break into it and steal its contents, be a knave, what name should we bestow upon the Old Bailey Barrister, who, in the defence of a confessed thief, sits and examines the laws to ascertain where he may best evade or break through them, for the purpose of defrauding justice and of letting loose a felon to renew his depredations upon society? Bentham compares the confidence between a criminal and his ad-

vocate, to a compact of guilt between two confederated malefactors."

The account of a *Bookseller*, of course, claims a place among our extracts:—

"*Bookseller.*—There is this difference between the heroes of Paternoster Row, and the Scandinavian warriors in the Hall of Valhalla,—that the former drink their wine out of the skulls of their friends, the authors, whereas the latter quaffed theirs out of the skulls of their enemies. In ancient times, the *Vates* was considered a prophet as well as bard, but now he is barred from his profit, most of which goes to the bookseller, who, in return, generously allows the scribbler to come in for the whole of the critical abuse. It has been indignantly said, that as a bibliopolist lives upon the brains of others, he need not have any himself. This is a mistake. He has the wit to coin the wit that is supplied to him, and thus proves his intellectual by his golden talents. Many a bookvender rides in his own carriage; but I do not know a single professional bookwriter who does not trudge a-foot. '*Sic vos non vobis*'—the proverb's somewhat musty.—If they take our honey, they cannot quarrel with us if we now and then give them a sting."

It is well if they do not give the sting in return for the honey; or, as the vile custom is, destroy the bees after the honey is made, that they may enjoy all the sweets themselves.

Criticism is also pretty well cut up:—

"As the devil can quote scripture for his purpose, so can the practised critic, by severing passages from their context, and placing them in a ridiculous or distorting light, make the most praiseworthy work appear to condemn itself. A book thus unfairly treated may be compared to the laurel, of which there is honour in the leaves, but poison in the extract."

We now come to C, and under "Child spoil," we have the following neat anecdote:—

"As a gentle hint to others similarly annoyed, we record the rebuke of a visitor, to whom a mother expressed her apprehension that he was disturbed by the crying of her spoiled brat. 'Not at all, madam,' was the reply; 'I am always delighted to hear such children cry.' 'Indeed! why so?' 'Because, in all well-regulated families, they are immediately sent out of the room.'"

Another anecdote is thus related:

"We have heard of a saucy knight of the shoulder-knot, who, on applying to the irascible Colonel B—, while he was at his desk, for the vacant situation of valet, asked permission to state beforehand that he never touched a boot, and inquired who was to do the black work? 'That I do myself,' cried the Colonel, throwing the inkstand in his face; 'and, as you never touch a boot, I must make my boot touch you,' with which words he kicked him down stairs."

Again:—"Distinction with a difference.—'I have no objection,' said a leveller, 'that the ranks below me should be preserved just as they are now, but I wish to have none above me; and that is my notion of a fair and perfect equality.' An instance of the distinction without a difference was offered by the Irishman who, having legs of different sizes, ordered his boots to be made accordingly. His directions were obeyed; but, as he tried the smallest boot on his largest leg, he exclaimed, petulantly, 'Confound the fellow! I ordered him to make one larger than the other; and, instead of that, he has made one smaller than the other.'"

And again:—"Distress.—Even when positive or superlative, is still only comparative.

'Such is the pressure of the times in our town,' said a Birmingham manufacturer to his agent in London, 'that we have good workmen who will get up the inside of a watch for eighteen shillings.' 'Pooh! that is nothing, compared to London,' replied his friend;—'we have boys here who will get up the inside of a chimney for sixpence!'"

"*Dram.*—A small quantity taken in large quantities by those who have few grains of sobriety, and no scruples of conscience. Horace Walpole records, that when one of his contemporaries died, in consequence, as it was currently said, of an over-addiction to brandy, the escutcheon affixed to the house of the deceased exhibited the common motto of '*Mors janua vitæ*;' upon which a wag observed—'Surely there has been a mistake in this inscription: it should have been '*Mors aqua vitæ*.'"

"An inveterate dram-drinker being told that the cholera with which he was attacked was incurable, and that he would speedily be removed to a world of pure spirits, replied, 'Well, that's a comfort, at all events, for it's very difficult to get any in this world.'"

"*Exaggeration.*—A Radical, inveighing against the rapacity of the clergy, gave it as his decided opinion, that if they had their own way, they would raise the tithes from a tenth to a twentieth. On the other hand, an intended diminution, by the same figure of speech, may amount to an exaggeration. 'I have just met our old acquaintance Daly,' said an Irishman to his friend, 'and was sorry to see he has almost shrunk away to nothing. You are thin, and I am thin, but he is thinner than both of us put together.' Did the Hibernian sailor exaggerate or diminish when, in describing the weather, he said, 'There was but little wind, but what there was, was uncommonly high.'"

"*Excuse.*—A gentleman, who had just put aside two bottles of capital ale to recreate some friends, discovered, just before dinner, that his servant, a country bumpkin, had emptied them both. 'Scoundrel!' said his master, 'what do you mean by this?'—'Why, sir, I saw plain enough by the clouds, that it were going to thunder, so I drank up the yale at once, lest it should turn sour, for there's nothing I do abominate like waste.' Fuseli, when he failed in any of his serious caricatures, used to complain that Nature put him out: and the slutish housemaid, when scolded for the untidiness of the chambers, exclaimed, 'I'm sure, the rooms would be clean enough, if it were not for the nasty sun, which is always shewing the dirty corners.'"

"*Epicure.*—An epicure has no sinecure; he is unmade, and eventually dished by made dishes. Champagne falsifies its name, when once it begins to affect his system; his stomach is so deranged in its punctuation, that his colon makes a point of coming to a full stop; keeping it up late, ends in his being laid down early; and the *bon vivant*, who has been always hunting pleasure, finds at last, that he has been only whipping and spurring, that he might be the sooner in at his own death!"

"*Epitaphs.*—Giving a good character to parties on their going into a new place, who sometimes had a very bad character in the place they have just left. For the *de mortuis nil nisi bonum*, it would be an improvement to substitute *nil nisi verum*; since the fear of posthumous disrepute would be an additional incentive to living good conduct. No man could pass through a truth-telling churchyard, without feeling the full value of character."

"*Etymology.*—I may mention that the

word *sack* is found in all languages, which a profound antiquary has explained, by suggesting that it was necessary to leave that primitive word, in order that every man, when he took his departure from the tower of Babel, might ask for his own bag. * * * Some-what far-fetched was the conceit of an erudite etymologist, who maintained that the term bag-pipe was originally a Hebrew word, signifying a larger sort of sackbut, sack and bag being synonymous terms, and a but being half a pipe. Learned philologists are very apt to imitate the ignorant butcher, who spent a whole morning in searching for the knife which he held in his mouth—a wild-goose chase, which has been eminently illustrated in their endless wanderings for the origin of the word danger, when it was difficult to stir a step without stumbling over its real etymology. We need not go any further back than the siege of Troy to discover it at once. After the capture of that city, by the well-known stratagem of the wooden horse, an event with which every Roman became familiar, only twelve hundred years afterwards, through the writings of Virgil, it was customary to exclaim, whenever any fraud or trick was suspected, '*Danaos gerit*?'—'Are there any Greeks in this pretended horse?' meaning any cheat or imposture. The phrase was soon proverbial, and, with the habitual indolence of the Italians, was eventually contracted into one word, by taking the initial syllable of each; so that whenever they smelt a rat, as we say in English, or anticipated any perils, they exclaimed, interrogatively, '*dan-ger*?' Is it not almost incredible, that so obvious a derivation should have been overlooked by the most acute of our etymologists? Henceforth let us hear no more of the butcher and his knife. In searching for the signification of words, we are not, however, always to take them *au pied de la lettre*, or we might find a hypocrite to be a judge of horses—a sycophant, as a fig-seer—a beldam, as a handsome lady—consideration, as a collection of stars—understanding, as a pair of shoes—and sincere, as unwaxed. Into these and similar errors, the enlightened etymologist is in no fear of falling, for he will ever bear in mind the fundamental rule of his art, viz. to pay little attention to consonants and none to vowels. Why should letters obstruct him when he is considering things of such importance as words?"

"*Friend, real*.—One who will tell you of your faults and follies in prosperity, and assist you with his hand and heart in adversity.—See Phoenix and Unicorn."

"*Hypocrisy*.—There is much hypocrisy in affecting to give up the pleasures of the world from religious motives, when we only withdraw from it because we find a greater gratification in the pleasures of retirement. 'My dear children,' said an old rat to his young ones, 'the infirmities of age are pressing so heavily upon me, that I have determined to dedicate the short remainder of my days to mortification and penance, in a narrow and lonely hole which I have lately discovered: but let me not interfere with your enjoyments; youth is the season for pleasure; be happy, therefore, and only obey my last injunction—never to come near me in my retreat. God bless you all!' Deeply affected, snivelling audibly, and wiping his paternal eyes with his tail, the old rat withdrew, and was seen no more for several days, when his youngest daughter, moved rather by filial affection than by that curiosity which has been attributed to the sex, stole to his cell of mortification, which

turned out to be a hole, made by his own teeth, in an enormous Cheshire cheese!"

"*Jealousy*.—Tormenting yourself, for fear you should be tormented by another. 'Why,' asks Rochefoucauld, 'does not jealousy, which is born with love, always die with it?' He would have found an answer to this question, had he reflected that self-love never dies. Jealousy is the greatest of misfortunes, and excites the least pity."

Having made this *Cento*, which we are sure will afford entertainment to our readers, as the *Tin Trumpet* itself will more fully do, we shall conclude for the present with one quotation upon an interesting subject:—

"*Knowledge*.—A molehill removed from the mountain of our ignorance. Where shall we discover a finer illustration of disinterestedness than the outcry raised against the taxes on knowledge by Alderman —, who can never be effected by the impost? To call the newspaper stamp, however, a tax upon knowledge, is to term the duty upon gin a tax upon provisions. Away with the former, nevertheless, in order that men of respectability and talent may enter into the arena, and compete with the authors of the illegal penny and twopenny publications. If danger be apprehended from the darkness or perversion of the popular mind, what security so effectual as that of enlightening and guiding it? How preposterous to clamour against the poison, and interdict the antidote! If the people will endanger their own constitution and that of the country, by plucking sour apples from the forbidden tree of knowledge, the only way to cure them of their propensity is to allow them free access to a sweeter and better fruit. 'What will be the best method of saving this small beer from depredation?' said a lady to her butler. 'By placing a cask of strong beer at the side of it,' was the reply. A knowledge of useful things, of which others are ignorant, is never considered an excuse for an ignorance of trifles that are generally known. After a scholar has attained a certain age, no knowledge that you can let in upon his mind will do him any harm. Cattle may be admitted into an orchard, to graze it, after the trees are grown up, but not when they are young. Partial instruction may be a partial evil; but universality of knowledge, however high the standard, will never take the poor out of their sphere. Elevating the lower without depressing the upper classes, it will be an unmixed good to both. But if knowledge be power, will not its universality give a dangerous ascendancy to the multitude? No; for the few will be still wiser than the many. The most ignorant will then run the greatest risk. In a general illumination, it is only the unlighted windows that are pelted and broken by the mob."

Much may be said on these *dicta*; but if we do offer any suggestions, they must, at any rate, be deferred till next Saturday.

England in 1835. By Fr. Von Raumer.

A fortnight ago, we translated from Von Raumer's second volume, and inserted in the *Literary Gazette*, that able foreigner's remarks on what we considered to be the most important topic in his work, viz. that of national education; but he touches on many other subjects respecting which it is desirable to hear the opinions of such a man, and we think it expedient to select a few of them for the edification of the English public. We may preface them by stating, that M. Von Raumer, being engaged on a history of the last three centuries,

resolved to visit England, both to examine the literary treasures of the British Museum, and other public repositories, and to make himself acquainted with the character of the people and the genius of our institutions. Furnished with powerful recommendations, he had no difficulty in gaining admittance to persons of the highest rank of all parties, and we find him equally well received by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sir Robert Peel, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Spring Rice, the Duke of Sussex, the Marquess of Lansdowne, &c. In general he mentions no names except of eminent public characters, but merely gives the initials; he, however, particularly mentions the great kindness with which Mr. Spring Rice bestowed his valuable time in giving him the most important information.

The sixty-six letters here printed were written during the author's six months' stay, from the 22d of March to the middle of September; during which time he visited also Edinburgh and Dublin. As these letters will appear in English, we give our miscellaneous extracts, merely premising, that the author writes in a far more grave style than in his letters from Paris in 1830, and that he goes into great detail on the political questions that have so long occupied the attention of all parties, the reform bill, the affairs of the church, the municipal corporation reform, Ireland, &c. There is no doubt that he aims at treating all these questions with impartiality; but many of his ideas, especially respecting the church, the dissenters, the universities, &c., are likely to call forth considerable opposition in England. M. R. in many places expresses his admiration of the size and immense importance of London. On his first approach, passing through the forest of masts in the river, he says:—

"Here we see and acknowledge that London is the real capital of the world, and not Paris, with the pretensions of its journalists and coteries. Paris is *par excellence* the city, Germany the country; here in London alone we may talk of the world."

"*Greatness of England*.—At a dinner for the Covent Garden Theatrical Fund, on the 9th of April, just at the moment of the dissolution of the ministry, he is struck with the little effect that so momentous a crisis had on the company: 'The healths of the king, the queen, the royal family, were all received with the loudest acclamations. It seemed as if all that was passing without were but a gentle play of the waves, or a skyrocket thrown into the air for amusement. The prosperity of England, its riches, its legislation, its liberty, seemed to be securely fastened to an immovable anchor, and they never can nor will be impaired. Clouds that float by high in the air, and appear to the timid to indicate a destructive storm, may rather be considered as those light flocks which announce the continuance of fine weather. In short, the whole was so peculiar, so exciting, that feeling for England (and did not years of my life belong to this country?), I could scarcely suppress a tear, and most earnestly prayed to God that he would not suffer this star to perish, but cause it to increase in glory and splendour, and free it from all partial eclipses! * * *

"Still less can those be said to take a clear and unprejudiced view of things who, as Cardinal Richelieu says, look at the world through the mouth of a bottle, and prophesy its destruction, because they see no light. In the eyes of these seven sages—(you have not, I suppose, more of this species in Berlin)—Great Britain is an eyecore, a pestiferous abyss, ruined for ages to come, powerless, irresolute, a blank spot in the map of Europe; I, on the contrary,

see it on the point of relieving itself from all its chief evils—financial improvidence, negro slavery, religious intolerance, scientific partiality, or restrictions of its schools and universities. Nay, should it ever fall into the confusion of the years 1640-1660, even those years were not without fruit, and not without regeneration: but, from the present state of the elements, there is no reason to predict an entirely abominable course. The planets, too, suffer disturbance in their course, yet their path was traced by the finger of God; a prudent astronomer is not disconcerted by this, but proves from it the wisdom of Providence. So I entertain the hope that the English will not be without pilots to guide them safely through every danger; and then will Britain stand greater and more powerful than ever, to the astonishment of those who now misunderstand it, and for the preservation of the Continent against danger, from the east and from the west.

"God knows the future destiny of France and England; not I, or any other man, because he reads the newspapers. To the points of resemblance which some people enumerate, I will oppose differences, and hope to have the last word. Richelieu said the French wanted a *plomb*; the English had, perhaps, too much: and this mighty ship, which boldly traverses the ocean of history, still possesses so much genuine living ballast of mind and heart, that it will certainly not so easily upset and sink, because some political figurantes climb up the mast, and, waving their colours, prophesy an Eldorado, where, suspended between heaven and earth, they would cast anchor."

The English Ladies.—"The ladies (at a route at the Duke of D.'s) were in general dressed with great simplicity and taste; jewellery rich, but not overloaded; neck and shoulders bare. Some with long ringlets; none à la *Chinoise*, or with the forehead quite bare; the most with ringlets on both sides, as in the copper-plates. Hardly any thing danced but waltzes; the space much crammed by the spectators. And now—the main point—What do you say of their beauty? The Task of Paris, who has so cheaply earned his fame, with his three goddesses, was an easy one compared with this. Though very few persons in company, or in London generally, wear spectacles, I took courage, placed mine on my nose, and, as a practised and critical judge and amateur, began my examination. But when I thought to myself, this is surely the most beautiful; a second, a third, came and upset my decision. Never in my whole life did I see so many beautiful women together in one place, and I understand Tieck's predilection for the English ladies better than I did before.

"The English ladies are in general represented as mute, stiff, cold, prudish, and praised only for their beauty. To the last I have already done justice; but the same justice calls on me positively to contradict the other parts of the description. In the first place, most of the ladies are very well informed; so that the conversation is by no means confined (as is very often the case in Italy) to trivial compliments and commonplace. I am inclined, also, to affirm, that the English women have more social animation, a more engaging versatility, than the men. As soon as my imperfect knowledge of the language allowed me to express but half a thought, or any feeling, I found them ready to comprehend and meet it, and that in such a lively, cheerful, natural manner, that I cannot conceive any more agreeable intercourse; not a trace of stiffness, affected dignity,

or insipid coquetry; but the just, positive, sound medium between two extremes.

"The same may be said of their dress. It is on the whole more simple than the German and French; nay, there appears, perhaps, now and then, a certain indifference to the petty arts of the toilet: on the other hand, it is very seldom that you see them dressed up and bedizened. You say, perhaps, that I am partial; with them, I am, at least, very disinterestedly so: that is to say, I find the English ladies amiable, though none of them has or could return the compliment to an old devourer of manuscripts (Abel Remusat called me *Bibliophage*) like myself."

The Queen—Windsor—Shakespeare.—"The English journals have said (and what are they not allowed to say?) that the queen intrigues for political objects. Since I have seen her, I would venture to take a historical oath that this is not the case. All her manners have the expression of the greatest good-nature and German simplicity. When she shewed me the portraits of her father and her relations, when she said, 'Now you must see my room, too,' the things which I saw could not, indeed, make me forget who the person was that spoke to me: and yet this person, this queen, made an impression on me, which reminded me more of native land and home than all the English ladies. Certainly I did not seek artificially to excite this impression—it came unexpectedly and of itself. But the more do I want an explanation of the origin of those assertions, and the following appears to me to be the natural one:—The queen has her own opinions on politics, but, from inclination and determination, takes no part in such matters. But politics intrude into her domestic circle, and she is required to change with the ministers, or at the will of the ministers, the persons in her service, with whom she is satisfied, and to whom she is accustomed. This, of course, cannot be agreeable to a German princess, and advantage is taken of this to represent her as the centre of certain principles.

"Lord H. very politely shewed me the whole castle, and much more than is usually shewn. Windsor surpassed my expectations, and made a greater impression on me than all the castles that I have ever before seen put together; the bold peculiar character of the middle ages, combined with the greatest magnificence and convenience that is possible in our days: it is not a cold, tiresome, regular repetition of apartments resembling each other; not the same thing repeated twice, or, like barracks, ten times over; but every staircase, every gallery, every apartment, every window different, surprising, peculiar,—in a word, poetical. Amidst the wealth and bustle of London, I have often longed for the silence of expiring Venice; have sought for a responsive echo of poetic melancholy, or of fantastic daring, in vain; there is no trace of it even in social circles; nothing but the strongly marked lines of reality, the mathematics of life. In Windsor, on the contrary, the whole of the rich history of England with all its reminiscences, is at once placed before my view. These gigantic towers, bastions, balconies, chapels, knightly halls in endless variety; at every step new prospects over land, river, valley, wood, and meadow; the imagination of a thousand years crowded into a moment, far surpassing all that opera scene-painters have ever ventured to exhibit even on paper and canvas.

"I have comprehended Versailles; I have

seen Louis XIV. and his court walk up and down with stately steps in the straight avenues between those hedges, fountains, and half fabulous animals: it was precisely a scene of Racine or Corneille. In Windsor, on the contrary, I conceived for the first time in England that Shakespeare is an Englishman: he reigns as king in these halls; and his romantic world has here a local habitation."

Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, Vol. LXXV; Natural History: Descriptive and Physiological Botany. By the Rev. J. S. Henslow. London, 1836. Longman and Co.; J. Taylor.

THIS is exactly one of those volumes which are not only excellent in themselves, but which tend to stamp the whole numerous series to which they belong with value. "Henslow's Principles of Botany" are indeed well deserving to stand by the side of Herschel's contribution to this cyclopædia, and to give currency to a few of the more mediocre productions of which it is composed. The learned professor of Cambridge has done justice to his subject, and to his own high character, by condensing into one small book, not only the elements, but nearly all that could be written upon descriptive and physiological botany. He has given us a concentrated library, and the lovers and students of botany will find nearly all they can desire, to cultivate their tastes and improve their knowledge, in this admirable treatise.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Draughts of Character, by A. Corkacrew. No. I. Pp. 16. (London, W. Carpenter.)—An amusing squib, in which the city authorities are described by a wagish pen, and depicted by a wagish pencil. The alderman is a fair example:—

"The alderman's favourite maxim is the exact reverse of the ancient axiom, 'a contented mind is a continual feast.' With him, a continual feast is the only source of a contented mind. His experience furnishes a contradiction to another venerable dogma, that 'one swallow makes not a summer; for his summer is but one swallow. In his philosophy, good living constitutes a good life. He thinks that the way to 'pursue' happiness is to tuck your feet under the table. He cannot understand why so many thousands annually starve; if they are hungry, why don't they dine?—if thirsty, why do they abstain from the bottle? King Solomon, he observes, ought to have married that French princess who inquired, when the people complained of the want of bread, why they didn't eat him! A stout man embodies his idea of a great man. He believes in the possibility of perfect bliss to all by the institution of a Universal College of Cookery. He looks upon a table as the only thing preordained to grow. He mentions Ude as the Cook best qualified to circumnavigate the globe. That great writer's book, he observes, should have been called 'Paradise Regained'; though the fame of Milton has been fairly earned by the delicacy of his oysters. He is decidedly of opinion, that no change is necessary in the order of human affairs; while nothing goes wrong in the kitchen, every thing must, ultimately, be right above stairs. Meanwhile, what perplexes him most, in the human character, is the habit indulged in (*indulged*!) by a few perverse people, of not arriving until the soup has actually been once round. He insists that our criminal code is shamefully imperfect, in passing over the flagrant offence of keeping dinner waiting. He also dislikes the custom of appointing dinners at 'five for six'—it is trifling with the sacredness of the time,—tampering with the inmost feelings of our nature!—he has no objection, however, to 'six for five precisely.' With regard to the laws of nature, he secretly thinks it a pity that appetite should be diminished by merely dining. He wishes that apoplexy could be abolished by act of parliament, and that man could eat himself down to the bare tablecloth. Yet, as it is, he contrives to be as happy as a turtle—a creature justly termed of the topers who lose time in walking from tavern to tavern. He sits still and fulfils his destiny—which is, to dine and die."

The Young Man's Companion. Pp. 84. (London, Groombridge.)—A second edition, which we commended to a nice young man of our acquaintance for an opinion: which he gave us in the following note:—"Dear Sir—There is, I dare say, much good advice in this book:

but the author seems totally ignorant of the grand fact, that the best Companion for a Young Man is a Young Woman."

The Parliamentary Guide for 1836; a concise History of both Houses of Parliament, their Connections, Privileges, &c., by R. B. Moseley, Parliamentary Agent. (London, Bailly and Co.)—Of this Guide last year, we said that it was copious and useful, comprehending all that was good in preceding productions of the same class, with more supplied by Mr. Moseley's own intelligence. If we now add that it is much improved for the present year, we have given it as high a character as such a work can receive.

The Parliamentary Pocket Companion, 1836. (London, Whittaker and Co.)—This is a very ample and useful work; containing every necessary information respecting the three grand branches of our constitution, king, lords, and commons. All its references seem to be as accurate as care and industry can make them.

Kidley's Paris in all its Glory. (London, Ingham).—A small and cheap guide to Paris: the information it contains is generally correct; and, had a most out-of-place attack on Mrs. Trollope, and remarks on Mrs. Norton, which could have no business in a book of the sort, been omitted, we should have had better pleasure in recommending it.

Cobbett's Modern Novels, Nos. XVI., XVII.—These two shilling Nos. bring us to the end of *Frank Midway*, and also complete the tenth volume of this very cheap edition. *Brumley House*, the best, we think, of Mr. Horace Smith's historical novels, comes next in six Nos.; and so the work "progresses" according to promise, and fairly fulfilling the publisher's contract.

Myford's Greece, Vol. VII. (London, Cadell: Edinburgh, Blackwoods).—Continues the work as heretofore.

Scott's Prose Works, Vol. XXII. (Edinburgh, Cadell: London, Whittaker).—Ditto, ditto, and with the *Tales of a Grandfather*, originally published in such small and moderate-priced tomes as hardly to be susceptible of reduction. The frontispiece, Edinburgh, and the Vignette, Dunfermline, by Turner, are picturesque and romantic.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ISLAND OF ASCENSION.

[We are favoured with the following original sketch of this interesting Island by Lieut. Richard Johns, of the Royal Marines, who has just returned from a residence upon it of several years.—*Ed. L. G.*]

It is remarkable that Napoleon, who had changed the fates of so many lands, should, even in his fall and banishment, unwittingly cause the colonisation of an island, long supposed to be a region of desolation. When the monarch warrior was exiled to St. Helena, Ascension,* the too fitting emblem of his fallen fortunes, (no longer in splendour and power, affrighting nations, and pouring the tide of destruction on cities and palaces, princes and people), was sitting in silence and darkness, glooming on the Atlantic. The rank verdure that capped her mountain, and was sparingly scattered over her sterile cinder plains, it is true, gave indication of the decomposition of volcanic matter, and the consequent gradual formation of a productive soil; but the wild-goat, the sea-bird, and the turtle, were the only lord-proprietors of Ascension, and it was supposed to be an impossibility to bring the island into sufficient cultivation to warrant the establishment of a colony. But Napoleon was at St. Helena, and thousands yet hoped that the victor in a hundred fights might break his thralldom, and again lead his armies to battle. There were hearts yet in France devoted to him, and the ready aid of America would not be wanting, if required, to facilitate his escape. Ascension, but a few days' sail to leeward of St. Helena, was consequently an outpost, of which it was desirable that England should take possession for the better security of her prisoner, and a small party of seamen, from a British man-of-war, formed the first settlement on that island in 1815. Having thus stated the origin of the establishment, I shall proceed to shew what, after the lapse of twenty years, perseverance has effected, under most discouraging circumstances. The first settlers on the island very naturally thought only of their present comfort, as it was not then contemplated that

Ascension would be permanently inhabited. A few huts were erected on the shore and mountain, and a small portion of land taken into cultivation; altogether but barely meeting the necessities of the naval garrison, whose only duties were to keep a good look-out to windward from their points of observation, and to make the best of their inhospitable home. It was not till the death of Napoleon that the island was considered a regular settlement, when a detachment of royal marines was sent out from England; it being determined by government to make Ascension a port of refreshment and dépôt for the use of the African cruisers employed in the suppression of the slave-trade. More mountain-land was then taken into cultivation, and much attention paid to the making of roads; but, alas! that great necessity of life, water, was but scantily afforded by a few drips owing their origin to the percolation of rain-water through the soil, till meeting with a conducting strata of a clayey character, it at last found its way to some projecting points of the mountain, where, on the discovery of the precious deposit, casks were placed for its reception. Hence mules and donkeys were daily employed in conveying it in small casks to the little establishment on the shore, being a distance of more than six miles, while, in very dry seasons, so great a falling off was there in even this scanty supply, that water has actually been landed from shipping for the use of the garrison. The island slowly "progressed" in improvement year after year; water became more abundant as fresh drips were discovered; goats and domestic poultry increased rapidly, and Guinea-fowl, introduced from the coast of Africa, bred in great numbers in the mountain. It was not till 1829, however, that government seemed particularly interested in the advancement of the island. About this time, an intelligent engineer officer was sent out, authorised to plan the proposed improvements; and it was then determined that water should be conducted from the mountain by a line of pipe which, after passing through a tunnel of nine hundred and thirty-five feet in length, should proceed in as direct a course as possible through tanks sunk at intervals to a reservoir regularly built in the town for its reception. This was ably executed as soon as material reached the island, a shaft, forty-six feet deep, being, about this period, sunk in the mountain, and an average supply of three tuns of water daily, afforded to the establishment from this source alone; altogether, the island can at present supply to the full all demands of shipping, and generally has about 1500 tuns in reserve. Plans were also laid down for the erection of a commodious hospital establishment, victualling stores, barracks, and officers' quarters, together with regular fortifications for the protection of the island; and, though the economy of the present times has not allowed all the contemplated works to be carried into execution, the settlement is at present very complete, upon a reduced scale, the principal and most essential erections being now nearly finished. The mountain district affords an abundant supply of vegetables to shipping; the African cruisers refitting and victualling in the bay, obtain, per order, rations of goat, sheep, or bullock, twice a week, with turtle *ad libitum*; and merchant-vessels may receive the same advantages by making moderate payment to government. Cultivation in the mountain has much to struggle against, from the uncertainty of the rainy season at Ascension, which, unlike the periodical rains of the coast of Africa, can be so little calculated upon, that crops of divers

description of edible plants are frequently destroyed by drought; but, as large tracts of country are devoted to the sweet potato, a root which seldom fails of producing plentifully, and the pumpkin is generally in abundance, the occasional failure of other vegetables is of minor importance.*

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

MR. PORTER in the chair.—Five gentlemen were proposed as fellows. The communication read was an analysis of a statistical view of the Empire of Morocco (Morocco), by Count Jacopo Gräberg di Hemsö. By Woronzo Greig, Esq. F.R.S. The author of this work, it is stated, resided six years in Morocco as consul for the kingdom of Sweden, and also for the King of Sardinia; during which time he enjoyed many opportunities of observation, and of obtaining information concerning a country which he describes to be rich, fertile, and susceptible of great improvement, while its geographical position furnishes advantages of climate which may, at some future period, render it no despicable competitor in the European markets. The work is divided into three parts, viz. 1st, Chorographia, exhibiting a geographical description of the empire, with an account of its harbours or roadsteads, its soil and climate, its productions, animal, vegetable, and mineral; and, lastly, of the habitations of the people. 2d, Ethnographia, treating of the population: and, 3d, Nomographia, or the civil government, police, finance, military establishments, and diplomatic relations. The countries composing Magh' reb-el-accā, or the extreme west, cover a surface of 24,379 square leagues, or about 220,000 square miles; with a sea-coast on the Mediterranean extending to Cape Sparte, 270 miles; and, on the shore of the Atlantic, 560 miles from Cape Sparte to the Cape Agoulow. The population is estimated by Count di Hemsö at 9,000,000; and he supports his estimate by comparing the population with that of southern Spain, Turkey in Europe, and Egypt. The distribution of the population is as follows:—

In the Kingdom of Fez	3,200,000	Sq. leagues.	to 9853
In the Kingdom of Morocco	3,600,000		5709
In Tafilet and Segelmea	700,000		3184
In Adra, Sus, &c.	1,000,000		5633
	8,500,000		24,379

—allotting 340 individuals to a square league, which falls short of the population of Andalusia, Algiers, Tunis, Turkey in Europe, and Egypt. The towns are neither numerous nor populous; Morocco, the capital, contains only 30,000 inhabitants, and Fez, 68,000. The population consists of nations and tribes differing in

* As a note upon this communication, and a curious fact in botanical history, we may state what has been done, within the short space of twenty years, in creating a new world of tree, and shrub, and herb, and flower, within the little circle of Ascension. About a hundred and sixty or a hundred and seventy productions of the vegetable kingdom have been introduced and acclimated; and where only a few coarse plants scantily existed, there is now seen the English oak, the Scotch fir, the black elder, the cypress, the citron, the orange, the peach, the mulberry (the papaw, and other fine trees. There are, also, the pomegranate, guava, Indian fig, &c. &c. Flowering shrubs of great beauty adorn the island, such as the acacia, the rose, of various kinds, the African castor-oil (*ricinus Afric.*), the oleander, the myrtle, and other deciduous plants. To these are added, the mignonette, the broad-leaved tobacco, the convolvulus, the winter-cherry (excellent for preserves), the balsam, and the fat hen (so is the *Atriplex hastata* called here) which is equal to the turnip-top or spinach, in the cookery of Ascension. Other esculents are potatoes, beet, parsnips, carrots, turnips, lettuce, cresses, endive, radishes, beans, onions, leeks, cabbages, brocoli, cauliflower, spinach, &c. &c. &c.; to which may be subjoined, artichokes, capisiums, cucumbers, pumpkins, melons, tomatoes, mushrooms, sweet potatoes, yams, Indian kale, and also Cape gooseberry, pine-apple, strawberry. A multitude of

* Ascension and St. Helena are considered by some travellers as the horns of a vast continent engulfed by volcanic influence.

their origin, language, customs, and laws. They may be thus classed:—

Berberber, Tawaricks	2,300,000
Sheloochs, a branch of the former	1,450,000
Arabs, pure as Bedouins, mixed as Moors	4,200,000
Jews	320,000
Blacks or Negroes	120,000
Europeans, Christian	300
Ditto, Renegades	300

—or, in round numbers, about 8,500,000. The first of these live upon the produce of their flocks, dwelling in tents and caverns; few are really subject to the emperor. The second tribe cultivate the soil, and manufacture various articles for European consumption, and dwell in towns and villages. The Arabs derive importance from their great wealth, and fill the highest offices in the state;—their character is bad in every respect. The Bedouins lead a wandering life. The Jews are universally confined to certain districts; they reside mostly in sea-ports, are employed in commerce, as artisans and interpreters: through them all intercourse with foreigners is carried on. The negroes are slaves, composing the sultan's guard, amounting to 10,900 men—the best part of his army. The only Christians in Morocco are foreigners; consisting of the consuls of foreign states, merchants, artisans, and their servants. There has been no instance of a Christian slave for twenty years in Magh'eb-el-asci: Christian slaves become free on entering the dominions of Morocco, by a spontaneous act of the late emperor. Renegades are of two classes, viz. *Pbsi*, who have renounced the Christian faith, and *Aslami*, who have abandoned that of the Jews. Of the former, which is composed of French, Italian, and Portuguese, the number is small, and daily diminishing; but the second is on the increase. The Christian renegade belonged to almost every nation in Europe, except the Swiss, Danes, and Prussians. They used to be placed in the highest offices in the state, but since the tragical fate of Antonio Piloti, an Italian, who, in the year 1825, had the appointment of admiral-in-chief and commandant of artillery, under the name of Achmed Ben-Steernan, no renegade is likely to fill any office of importance. The author then proceeds to take notice of agriculture, pastoral occupations, hunting, and fishing, which he denominates the fundamental arts, in contradistinction to commerce and manufactures. He includes mines and metals under the head of industry. After giving some interesting details respecting the cultivation of wheat, barley, millet, maize, rye, and rice, which last is only produced in the western provinces, and so bad in quality that what is used by the sultan and the court is imported from North America, the author shews the comparative rate of increase of the different sorts of grain in Morocco:—

Wheat yields	25 to 1
Barley	20-30
Millet	150
Maize	300

Potatoes, which have been introduced from England and France, thrive in the northern provinces, but they degenerate after a second or third crop, and renewal of seed is therefore necessary. This is also the case with other culinary vegetables imported from Europe.

fibrous-rooted perennials include geranium, balm of Gilead, iris, bulboch, spiderwort, stramonium, sea-sponge, &c.; while perennial bulbs, among other varieties, present about thirty dahlias, lilies, belladonna, eglantine, and arrow-root. Convolvulus (*lutea*), the passion-flower, and the grape-vine, distinguish the climbing plants; and among those of an aromatic nature are balm, hyssop, savory, marjoram, thyme, horehound, borage, and wormwood. Alces are plentiful; and many canes, reeds, grapes, and mosses, fill up this interesting catalogue, having converted the wild lava-desert into a scene of fertility and loveliness.—*Ed. Lit. Gaz.*

Agriculture, as might be expected, is not conducted upon scientific principles in Morocco; rotation of crops is unknown; fencing totally neglected, and the implements of husbandry are in the rudest state. The markets afford grapes, oranges, lemons, figs, almonds, pomegranates, peaches, apricots, apples, pears, medlars, plums, mulberries, melons, gourds, cucumbers, tomatas, beans, pease, turnips, artichokes, onions, garlick, &c. Various aromatic and spicy plants are also produced in plenty. Flax is said to have been tried with success, but to no extent, the author never having seen it. Hemp, tobacco, al'hennah, an herb producing yellow dye, much used by the women, grow in abundance. The Moors smoke tobacco, and also the seeds and leaves of hemp, which is a far more powerful and intoxicating herb than tobacco, and it is used for that by various other nations; in excess it is poisonous. Our author goes on to notice the vast forests of fine larches which abound in Morocco;—locusts, the bane of agriculture: these insects multiply in a ratio that seems almost incredible; it is said that one female deposits 700,000 eggs in the sand, which are developed and brought to life in a short time;—sheep, computed to amount to forty or forty-five millions, of which no less than 700,000 are slaughtered annually at the grand festival, called A'id-ul-keb'ir, or the last day of the Mussulman year;—the goat, which comes next to the sheep in number and value: of this animal there are supposed to be ten or twelve millions in Morocco;—the camel, the number of which is estimated at 500,000;—the horse, most in estimation with the Arab, the number of which is estimated at 400,000;—the ass, at about half that number;—and, lastly, the dog. Dogs are never put to death in this country—consequently, they exist in noxious numbers, although the scanty provision of the natives leaves them but little to spare to their dogs. It is confidently asserted that these animals are never afflicted with hydrophobia in Northern Africa, nor in any Mohammedan country; but, though dogs escape, it is said that mules are subject to this disease in Magh'eb-el-asci.

Thanks were voted for this interesting communication.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.

MR. LAMBERT in the chair.—Read some observations on the *Nephrodium rigidum*, by Professor Don, Lib. L.S. This interesting species was discovered some years ago at Ingleborough, and it has since been published in the supplement to English Botany. The British specimens accord entirely with foreign ones. Read, also, remarks on some varieties of *Erica ciliaris* and *Tetralix*, by the same. The extreme states of these two species, which are both natives of Britain, are easily recognised at first sight; but varieties do occur in which the characters of both appear blended, and the only permanent mark of distinction between them is the presence or absence of the arm-like appendages at the base of the anthers.

ZOOLOGY.

A VALUABLE collection of fossil remains of the *Mastodon* and *Mammoth*, of the Ohio, and other remains of cetaceous animals, &c. from North America; together with the skeleton of a recent elephant, were sold by auction by Mr. J. C. Stevens, on Wednesday, when the following lots occurred, the disposal of which seems to us to be sufficiently interesting to zoological and geological science to merit a place in our columns.

Lot 14. A fine specimen of a molar tooth, with four processes, of the Great Mastodon, nearly perfect, 4. 4s. The College of Surgeons.

18. A fine molar tooth of the upper jaw, the surface much worn, 4. 4s. The College of Surgeons.

19. A fine molar tooth of the lower jaw, very perfect, 3. 3s. Lord Cole.

25. A fragment of the left side of the upper jaw, with two fine and moderately perfect molar teeth, 4. 6s. The British Institution.

29. A molar tooth, with four denticuli, 3. 5s. The British Museum.

33. An ulna of extraordinary size, and very perfect at the upper extremity, thirty inches in length, 6. The College of Surgeons.

39. The left ramus of a lower jaw, with two molar teeth with three points each, 3. 10s. Lord Cole.

43. A very perfect specimen of a molar tooth, with five processes, 3. 5s. The British Museum.

45. Two specimens of tibia, right and left, very perfect, each twenty-three inches in length, 5. 10s. The College of Surgeons.

49. A body of a femur, very perfect, thirty-six inches in length, 14. The College of Surgeons.

49. The right and left side of the pelvis of the same individual, very perfect, each portion thirty-one inches in length, 10. The College of Surgeons.

50. A gigantic specimen of the sacrum, 6. The College of Surgeons.

51. The right and left side of a lower jaw, with a grinder in each, very fine, 9. The College of Surgeons.

54. A fine molar tooth, with five processes, very fine, 6. 10s. The British Museum.

56. A fragment of the right side of the upper jaw, with two perfect grinders, the one with three, and the other with four, processes, 7. The British Museum.

57. A molar tooth, with five processes, very perfect, 4. 8s. The British Museum.

58. A molar tooth, with five processes, very perfect, 4. Mr. Wright.

60. The lower portion of a humerus of gigantic dimensions, 7. 10s. The College of Surgeons.

62. A femur of immense size, thirty-four inches in length, 3. 10s. Lord Cole.

67. The first bone of the sternum, and three portions of anterior ribs, 6. 10s. The College of Surgeons.

71. A femur thirty-one inches in length, the lower extremity in a very perfect state, 3. 1s. Professor Selgwick.

77. A portion of the right ramus of a lower jaw with perfect grinder, much worn, very fine, 5. The College of Surgeons.

80. The right ramus of a lower jaw, with two grinders, the one partly imbedded in the alveolar cavity, very fine and nearly perfect, 7. 10s. The College of Surgeons.

81. The posterior part of the left side of the jaw, apparently of the same individual, containing one grinder partly imbedded, 6. 15s. The British Museum.

82. A molar tooth, portion of scapula, and two dorsal vertebrae, 2. 2s. Lord Cole.

90. The right ramus of a lower jaw, with posterior molar tooth, the enamel of a whitish colour; and the symphysis of a lower jaw, 3. 3s. The British Museum.

91. The left ramus of a lower jaw, with fine molar tooth, quite perfect, 7. The College of Surgeons.

92. A portion of the left side of upper jaw, with one grinder and part of socket for tusk, 3. 10s. Professor Selgwick.

116. A portion of a pelvis of gigantic size, thirty-three inches in length; and sundry fragments, 6. 10s. Lord Cole.

117. An enormous tusk, in two portions, the extremity and base quite perfect, ten feet eight inches in length, twenty-two inches in circumference—a magnificent specimen, 13. 13s. The College of Surgeons.

124. The cranium, with two perfect molar teeth, and sockets for two more; length, from occiput to end of socket of tusks, thirty-six inches, exclusive of portion of socket broken off; diameter across at orbit, nineteen inches; girth at occiput, fifty-seven inches; girth lengthways, eighty-three inches; weight, one hundred and seventy-five pounds—a grand specimen, 14. The British Museum.

125. Two sides of a lower jaw of the Mammoth, each containing two grinders, 9. The College of Surgeons.

126. The upper jaw, with palate and two molar teeth very perfect, 6. 10s. The College of Surgeons.

130. Portion of the skull, with the upper jaw, containing a large grinder quite perfect, with part of the sockets for the tusks, 12. 12s. The College of Surgeons.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

OXFORD, Feb. 11.—The Rev. T. J. Hussey, D.D. of Trinity College, Dublin, was admitted *ad eundem*; and the following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelor in Civil Law, by Commutation.—Rev. W. P. Powell, Worcester College.

Masters in Arts.—J. D. Cork, Exeter College, Grand Compendium; W. R. Faber, University College; R. W. Kemble, Lincoln College; A. G. S. Shirley, Christ Church.

Bachelors of Arts.—Rev. C. J. Sterling, St. Mary Hall; W. Henrywood, University College; G. Burdon, Lincoln College; G. H. Drummond, Christ Church.

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 12.—The degree of D.D. was conferred on Archdeacon Broughton, of Pembroke College, by royal mandate.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

The paper by Mr. Hamilton, mentioned in our last report, was on the character of Alcibiades, as drawn by Phidippides, in the "Clouds" of Aristophanes: but, upon reference to the minutes, we find it unsuceptible of abridgement in our columns.

On Thursday week, Colonel Leake in the chair, a very interesting paper was read, descriptive of a visit to the source of the famous Styx, by the Chevalier Brönstead, who was present at the reading. The chevalier detailed other parts of his travels in the Peloponnusus, and minutely traced his progress to this object of his research, near Nonairis, in Arcadia. The ways were rough and toilsome; and the difficulty of obtaining correct information to direct the route, even when within a few miles of the place, shews how little intelligence and intercommunication there exists in this portion of Greece. Sicyon and Stymphalos were visited, as was the Lake Phœneus, where a goatherd told a tale of extraordinary caves, visible when the waters were low. Pausanias was quoted as a sure authority; and the chevalier remarked, that remains were often found (such as the ruins of Messene) of earlier dates than the records of Greek history, where all signs of later buildings mentioned by Roman writers had utterly disappeared. At a convent, an ignorant monk seemed to have heard something of "the black water of the Styx," and this was the only indication met with of this celebrated stream being at all known. M. Fourmont's accounts were found to be erroneous. The ascent of the mountain Kalmo was attended with great labour and danger. Solos is the village nearest to the torrent, which rises, apparently, from two sources, and flows a considerable distance under the snow and ice. On its descent it is joined by another copious spring; and further down by other currents, and thence the united stream flows into the Gulf of Corinth. The whole narrative was of the highest classical interest, and the thanks of the meeting was unanimously given to the learned writer for his valuable communication.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

FEB. 11. Lord Aberdeen, president, in the chair.—John Newman, Esq. exhibited two Saxon capitals, discovered in digging for the foundations of the city of London schools, in Honey Lane; they are supposed to have been parts of All Hallow's Church, which formerly stood on the same site. Also a small, but extremely perfect and beautiful bust of the Emperor Hadrian, in marble, found in the neighbourhood of Bourdeaux, and bearing a striking likeness to the colossal bronze head of Hadrian, found some time since in the bed of the Thames. Sir Francis Palgrave, after alluding to some hitherto inedited documents, preserved in the exchequer, of which he gave a general description on the 17th of December last, as shewing some facts in the history of Scotland previously unknown; namely, that there was a supreme council, called the seven earls of Scotland, who had acknowledged the claim of the elder Bruce to the crown of Scotland, and an appeal to Edward the First of England, to interfere in the dispute between Bruce and Baliol: Sir Francis now communicated some remarks on one of these documents, namely, the petition of Baliol to Edward the First, in which he alleges, that Alexander being aged and childless himself, but that his uncle David had left three daughters, of whom the eldest had an only daughter, but the second had a son, Bruce, he had submitted

the case to the seven earls of Scotland for their decision as to the succession; that they had decided that the son of the second daughter should succeed in preference to the daughter of the first, and had acknowledged Bruce as the heir to the throne.

FEB. 18. Lord Aberdeen, president, in the chair.—Mr. Diamond exhibited some specimens of early engraving in mezzotinto, by Prince Rupert and others. The prince has generally been considered the discoverer of mezzotinto, and his earliest productions, of which there were three specimens, were in the year 1658. Mr. D., however, had discovered one by Furstemburgh, in 1656, and two by the Count de Siegen, executed fifteen years earlier than Prince Rupert's first; one of them having engraved in the corner, "Siegen Inventor fecit, 1643." The Rev. J. B. Dean communicated a description, accompanied by drawings, of some ornaments of gold, found under one of the large stones of a Celtic temple at Quintin, near Carnac, in Brittany. There were twelve in number, most of them above 1 lb. 5 oz. in weight; and the aggregate intrinsic value of the gold above 1000*l*. They were of a twisted pattern, and like the torques in shape, though smaller in the circle formed by them. When first discovered, they were supposed to be Roman; but Mr. Dean considered they were used by the ancient Gauls, and were called manichies, in contradistinction to the larger ornaments for the neck, worn as marks of distinction by the Roman and other nations, called torques.* These curious and valuable reliques were sold to a goldsmith, who endeavoured to dispose of them; but, not being able to find a purchaser, they were unfortunately consigned to the crucible.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS
FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.

Royal Geographical, 9 P.M.

Russell Institution, 8 P.M.

Mr. Pemberton on the Principal Characters of Shakespeare's Plays—Richard II. and Henry V.

Tuesday.

Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ P.M.—Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.—Zoological, 8½ P.M.—Medico-Botanical, 8 P.M.

Wednesday.

Society of Arts, 7½ P.M.—Geological, 8½ P.M.—London Institution, 7 P.M.

Thursday.

Royal Society, 8½ P.M.—Antiquaries, 8 P.M.—Royal Society of Literature, 4 P.M.

Friday.

Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH GALLERY, FALL MALL.

(Third notice.)

No. 2. *The Landlord and his Friend*. A. Fraser.—No one has a right to draw conclusions respecting the disposition or habits of artist or writer, from the subjects on which he employs his pencil or pen; otherwise, it might be supposed that the exquisite relish of the liquor in this clever little performance could have been expressed only by a jolly fellow.

No. 163. *A Chinese Lady of the Province of Ningpo*. W. Daniell, R.A.—What has been done by our artists, especially by the lamented Newton, in favour of the features and costume of the females of Holland, Mr. Daniell has effected for the females of China; and, by an union of good art and good taste, has

* These specimens (nearly complete circlets) appeared to us too small for the neck, and too large to be worn on the wrist or arm; they may have been ornaments for the druidical altar, but we think they were used as money.

shewn that, at least as far as exterior is concerned, they are as attractive as those of Europe. He has also invested his subject with a fairy-like lightness, and fanciful novelty of character.

No. 145. *Mother and Child*. C. W. Cope.—We do not recollect to have heard the name or seen the works of this artist before; but it must have required much observation, and not a little practice, to have produced so favourable an example of reflected light in the flesh—a difficult, and seldom attained quality. From this specimen we augur highly of the future productions of Mr. Cope's pencil.

No. 1. *Fortress of Alhambra*. D. Roberts.—In this, and in others of his works in the gallery, the talents of Mr. Roberts appear to their usual advantage. "The Fortress of Alhambra" is a view of greater extent, though less diversified in character, than some of his other subjects; as No. 117, *Tower of the Chapter-house, Cathedral of Burgos*, and No. 236, *Entrance to the North Transept, Cathedral of Burgos*. In the last-mentioned performance, form, light, and colour, are united in one brilliant gem of art.

Among the subjects in familiar life are two, very ably treated, by T. Clater; viz. No. 159, *Christmas Cheer*, and No. 146, *The Labourer's Repast*. The first is one of the most vigorous specimens of tone and colour, combined with individuality and truth of nature, we ever saw, from the hand of this or any other artist. The last is an example of Mr. Clater's powers in the rustic and picturesque.

No. 37. *Alfred the Great, when a Youth, encouraged by the Queen, listening to the heroic lay of a Minstrel*. S. A. Hart, A.R.A.—This performance illustrates the power of early impressions over the mind, and is treated in a style honourable to the talents of the artist, and to the English school of design.

No. 27. *The Lady of the Lake; the background a View on the Lake of Thun, Switzerland, &c.* S. J. Chalon, A.R.A.—A pictorial parody on Sir Walter Scott's poem. The expression of the female is arch and coquettish; and, as she looks back on the shore she is leaving, she reminds us, with the alteration of a word, of a line in one of our pastoral poets:

"She roves, but hopes she does not rove unseen."

No. 29. *Windsor in the Sixteenth Century; Moonlight*. T. C. Hoffand.—History and poetry combine to give interest to this gem of art.

No. 9. *Sheep and Donkey*. T. S. Cooper.—Mr. Cooper has with great success transferred to the British school the character and style of the works of Paul Potter; a proof of which will be found in this highly finished cabinet picture.

With landscapes, sea-coasts, continental views, &c. the gallery is abundantly supplied. Among these are—

No. 127. *Endleigh, Devonshire, the Seat of his Grace the Duke of Bedford*. F. C. Lewis.—A scene like this, in nature, with its green freshness and repose, would stop us to admire its beauties, though we were hastening to intercept the mail-coach, and would, in all probability, make us lose our place. A similar remark is applicable to No. 136, *Stoneypath Castle, East Lothian*, and No. 144, *Penshurst Park, F. R. Lee, A.R.A.*; which, in character and effect, are admirable specimens of the artist's powers. No. 152, *Edinburgh, from the Braid Hills*, C. R. Stanley, is one of Mr. Stanley's most successful productions: the imposing character of Auld Reekie can nowhere be viewed with more advantage than from the station here selected. No. 135. *The Head of Windermere Lake*, W. Linton. The rich and varied

foreground gives great value to the beautiful forms and tender air-tints of the distances. No. 128. *Clifton, from the Ashton Meadows; the Cattle by T. S. Cooper, J. B. Pyne.* Thus endowed, Clifton, on its lofty station, becomes a still more important feature of the scene; contrasted and set off by the richly coloured and interesting foreground. No. 110. *A Coast Scene, J. Wilson; No. 125, View of Edinburgh from the Sea, W. A. Knell.* Two very clever productions of their kind.

(To be continued.)

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Guilt and Innocence. Painted by J. R. Herbert; engraved by James Egan. F. G. Moon. Two young females before the shrine of the Holy Virgin: the one offering a simple nosegay, and looking up with an air of cheerfulness and conscious purity; the other pouring forth a profusion of expiatory jewels, with her face sunk in her hands in a transport of grief and remorse. The effect of chiaroscuro is exceedingly good. We wish Innocence were a little prettier: it would add to her merit.

Landscape Illustrations of the Bible.

Parts XX. to XXIII. Murray.

We have so frequently noticed this interesting publication, that all which it is necessary for us to say at present is, that it is proceeding in the same beautiful style of execution which distinguished its former Parts. Our favourite plates, among those under our immediate notice, are, "Laodicea," the "Cedars of Lebanon," the "River Nile, with the Pyramids," the "Ruins at Djerast," "Samaria," and "Patmos."

The Last Man. John Martin, delt. Alfred Martin, sculpt.

SAD distinction! Mr. Martin has finely represented the sublime desolation of the unfortunate being who has survived all his fellow-creatures, by whose dead bodies he is surrounded, and who is witnessing the gradual dissolution of Nature herself.

The Young Husband—The Old Husband. Painted by S. J. E. Jones; engraved by J. Egan. F. G. Moon.

A PAIR of prints that teach a very old but a very sound conjugal lesson. In other respects, there is nothing remarkable in them.

Robert Burns and his Highland Mary. Painted by R. Edmonstone; engraved by Mrs. W. H. Simmons. F. G. Moon.

A BEAUTIFUL and tender illustration of Burns's beautiful and tender lines:—

"How sweetly bloom'd the gay green birk,
How rich the hawthorn's blossom;
As underneath their fragrant shade,
I clasp'd her to my bosom!
The golden hours, on angel-wings,
Flew o'er me and my dearie;
For dear to me, as light and life,
Was my sweet Highland Mary."

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE DESERTED VILLAGE.

AFAR in the vale, where the lone brook is flowing,

A village all ruin'd and roofless appears;
No longer the rose in its garden is growing,
But dews of the ivy fall o'er it like tears!

For the war-drum bath roll'd, and the death-banner floated,

And England commanded her sons to the
And the forms upon which many a mother
hath doted,

Have fed the wild vulture and wolf of the

Alas! for the time when the moon call'd from labour

Each maiden and lover through cornfield and
When the villagers' dance and the sweet flute
and tabor

Made happy the hearts that may ne'er meet
For cold lie the limbs—and, oh! silent for
ever

The lips that with truth and affection once
And the friends no misfortune on earth could
dissever

Lie buried afar from the village they loved!

Then no more in the fame of your victories
glory:

But think of the village all ruin'd and wild;
Of the many that mourn for one bosom laid
gory—

The widow deploring—and desolate child!

Oh! a harvest first gain'd from a soil, that
for ages

Frown'd barren and bleak on the traveller's
Is a conquest more great than the one kings
engages,

Where earth groans with blood of the thou-
C. SWAIN.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

Popular Traditions of the Riesengebirge,
(Mount of the Giants, in Silesia.)

Rübezah!—No. III.

THE spirit of the mountain was determined to have his share of the game on his domains; he would, therefore, not allow any sporting dogs upon them. One of the ancestors of Count Schafgotsch one day made one of his gamekeepers, who lived at the top of a barren mountain, take a dog into his house, which he had not until that time ventured to do, knowing the severe orders of the spirit on that subject. During the night every thing round the house was in disorder; the windows rattled, the doors slammed with violence, the dog in the first instance barked, he soon after howled, then disappeared, was torn to pieces, and his limbs were found scattered at a great distance. Since that occurrence, hunters have not again dared to take dogs with them into those upper regions.

Rübezah!'s caprices are very various. Sometimes he decoys travellers into the most wild and rocky part of his domains; sometimes he sets traps for those who have excited his anger by imprudent provocation. Above all, he delights in suddenly disturbing the repose of the air, in gathering fogs, in creating tempests. Frequently he appears to rascally Jew jockeys mounted on a horse covered with gold and silver; and when, seduced by an advantageous offer, they have bought the superb courser, the animal soon after changes into a truss of straw. On the other hand, Rübezah! often comes to the assistance of poor and badly equipped gentlemen. Are the last-mentioned crossing the mountain, advancing with difficulty on their wretched hacks? a rich cavalier appears, who enters into conversation with them, and boldly maintains some absurdity, in order to lead them into a wager. The loser is to relinquish to the other his horse and his clothes. Rübezah! loses; and his joyful adversary pursues his journey well mounted and magnificently dressed. That is not all. When he leaves the mountain, he feels that his pockets are heavy, and he is rejoiced to find that they are full of gold. But should some adventurer, hearing of this good fortune, try to have his share of the bounty of the spirit of the mountain, he is cruelly punished. His coat changes

into dry leaves, and his horse into a stick. The enchanted traveller does not perceive the metamorphosis, and continues his way through the villages thus absurdly accoutred.

Appearing to poor women who are seeking for simples as a traveller, Rübezah! persuades them to throw the herbs which they have gathered out of their baskets, and to fill them with dry leaves. After he is gone, the baskets become heavy; the women stagger under the burden, the weight of which is constantly augmenting. At last, in spite, and not being able to go further, they throw the useless collection on the ground. But scarcely have they reached home, when they discover, with astonishment, that some of the leaves which stuck to the baskets have been transformed into pieces of gold. Then, remembering the place where they divested themselves of the precious load, they run thither as fast as possible, but can find nothing.

Rübezah! has frequently made presents to poor children. If young people without fortune are going to be married in any of the villages of the mountain, he is present at the wedding as a joyful guest, dances with the bride, gives to her a silk riband apparently of no value, and to the bridegroom a piece of copper. But scarcely is he gone when the riband becomes a splendid necklace, and the copper a piece of gold. The wife of a peasant is taken in labour; there is no assistance in the neighbourhood; a strange midwife suddenly presents herself, who is received with welcome. The mother is brought to bed almost without suffering, but under the superintendence of the midwife the births multiply; the room is filled with new-born infants, who rival one another in squalling. The priest is sent for, and when he takes the children into his hands they are transformed into dolls, until he arrives at the real child: the midwife and the dolls then disappear. Frequently in the most desert defiles of the mountain is found an inn, the landlord of which is Rübezah!; who mystifies his guests in the pleasantest manner. —*Revue des Etats du Nord.*

MUSIC.

VOCAL SOCIETY.

THE second concert, on Monday last, left a general impression of agreeableness and variety that is not always felt after even the best entertainments of the kind. Mendelssohn's motet for a double choir, which was introduced to the English public at these concerts last season, was heard again with increased pleasure on Monday night. It is full of genius, and in the very loftiest style of sacred composition. Next on the list of agreeable recollections comes the motet of Mozart, adapted by Mr. E. Taylor to English words, commencing, "O praise the Lord." This was a novelty, and one that was well worth the trouble of bringing forward. A madrigal by Alessandro Striggio, dated 1560, "No din of rolling drum," was also new to the audience, and deservedly well received. Storaace's sestet from *The Haunted Tower*, "By mutual love delighted," almost set some of the audience dancing. This lively dramatic piece is excellent in its way; and the same praise also applies to the Rev. R. Greville's glee, "Now the bright morning star," which is fresh, joyous, and sparkling almost as the poetry that suggested it. The other glees and concerted pieces we must dismiss with general commendation, except "The vintager's chorus," which is vulgar and commonplace to the last degree. Happily the composer's fame rests on too broad a foundation to admit of its suffering material injury from the revival of one of his accidental

failures. Were it otherwise, and Haydn still living, we should feel tempted to exclaim, "An enemy hath done this!" Mr. Balfe, who succeeded to admiration in Mozart's comic song, "Madamina," possesses a large share of the true Italian gusto. Would that a portion of the same vivifying spirit could be infused into Mr. Hobbs! This vocalist, notwithstanding his sweet voice, beautiful shake, and many other excellences, tried our patience to its utmost verge by his cold and tame performance of Handel's beautiful solo, "O come let us worship;" which solo, by the way, would be rendered still more beautiful by a little judicious curtailment of the latter part. Th's suggestion may be thought utterly sacrilegious, but we will venture to stake all our critical sagacity on the success of the experiment. Mrs. Seguin's performance on Monday conveyed the impression of her having adopted the erroneous notion (formerly so prevalent in this country, and still far from being entirely exploded), that loud singing is identical with fine singing. We marvel much that one whose opportunities of cultivation and improvement have always been so favourable, should not have become enlightened on this point ere now. In Clifton's sweet and graceful canzonet, "If music be the food of love," Miss Hawes displayed very considerable excellence. We do not complain of her for not entering fully into the spirit of Shakespeare's exquisite lines, as a lack of poetical feeling is but too general among our native singers, and it is, besides, hardly reasonable to expect much power of expression from a very young vocalist. We must quarrel with the composer for having more than once, in the course of the song, made this elliptical reading,

"Like the sweet south upon a bank of violets,"

which, trifling as the alteration may appear to him, we feel to be a most cruel disturber of old and favourite associations. We regret that such an oversight should have occurred in a composition of so much merit. Miss Woodvatt's performance in the glees, &c. was highly satisfactory, especially with reference to those points alluded to in our last notice. This young lady will certainly take her stand among the very best of our glee singers—a position that by no means implies the inability to do more. Q.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Rhine Boat, or Lays of Many Lands. A Musical and Metrical Romance. The words by M. Lemon, the music by F. Romer. London, Hawes.

We have been much delighted with these Lays. They grow upon one, and each time they are played some new and sweet turn strikes upon the ear. We cordially recommend our friends to take a passage in the "Rhine Boat."

Talk not of Pleasure. Irish Melody. Words by J. R. Planché, Symphonies, &c. by Balfe. London, Chappell.

Der Kindervalse. By C. F. Planché, Idem. BALFE and Planché, two attractive names; and here we can answer for no disappointment. The first is a sweet melody, and the words good and appropriate. Upon its own merits, therefore, it ought, and probably has (we being rather late with our musical notices) taken its place amongst the most popular of the day. Planché seems, indeed, to think "every thing that is worth doing is worth doing well." How can we talk, then, of any thing but success and consequent pleasure to him? We must also praise the pretty and clever little waltz, composed by his pretty and clever little daughter. We

are sure our juvenile friends will play and dance to it with much pleasure.

Naval Waltzes for the Piano Forte. By E. L. G. London. Lee.

THE production of a young lady fifteen years of age, and evincing, wonderfully early, great talent. The second and third waltzes are very original and pretty. If we are not mistaken, the literary talent of a well-known and popular naval author, takes here a musical tack in the transmitted and inherited talent of a fair daughter.

The Birth-day Quadrilles. By Richard Seed. Purday. *The Saddleworth Quadrilles.* Idem. *The Five Sisters. Quadrilles.* By C. Hart. George and Manby. *Three Original Waltzes.* By G. E. Eachus. Holloway. *Gage D'Amitié.* By W. Garrick. Aldridge. *The Harp of Eolus.* By Miss Naylor. Addison and Beale. R. Mills. *The Beauty of the Mind.* By Maria B. Hawes. Hawes.

NONE of these are above mediocrity. Some few good passages occur, but not, in our opinion, of sufficient merit to entitle them to separate notices.

A Second Waltz for the Piano Forte. Composed by Henry Craggs. Lonsdale.

A VERY animated production in E, with a gay and sparkling melody, and an elaborate bass, which, though it requires a left hand of no ordinary agility to execute it, produces a rich and masterly effect. The author should, however, have recollected that, though his own powers on the instrument are of so high an order as to render even extreme difficulties of no account to him, the generality of players, especially of waltz-players, are intimidated by them. The present waltz will, nevertheless, be popular, if only for its beautiful subject, and the agreeable *alternativo* in A, which, as one listens to it, makes one long for a fair partner with whom to whirl about in numerous gyrations.

DRAMA.

THE novelties this week are few and unimportant, sometimes they are many and equally so. At the *Olympic* on Monday a *Handsome Husband* was introduced by Mrs. Planché, and so well acted by Vestris, Vining, and C. Mathews, that there was no question of success. It is very gratifying to see the latter not only so firmly established in popularity, but rising with every new opportunity. His style is indeed original, and no less piquant and pleasing.

A *Rough Diamond* was dug out of a French mine on the same evening at the St. James's, but it came late to light after the *Fra Diavolo*, in itself a sufficient treat for any evening at this fair Temple of the Muses, with Braham, Barker, Stretton, Stansbury, P. Horton, &c. &c., who truly afforded us a musical treat of very superior attraction. The *Rough Diamond* has been superseded by the *Waterman*, though Forrester, Selby, Barnett, Mrs. Garrick, Miss Allison, Miss Garrick, Miss Rees (a *débutante* of promise), &c. &c., shewed its bright sides to the audience as vividly as the cutting admitted; which, it must be owned, was not very bright.

At the *Victoria, Lochinwar*, a drama of "diablerie, and sorcerie," with some of Spohr's music, has been successfully produced; how could it be otherwise with such infernal characteristics?

The Polish Refugee affair at Covent Garden

on Saturday did not succeed well; neither did Mr. Otway in another attempt in Tragedy.

At Drury Lane, but, being last night, too late for our notice this week, a novel musical entertainment is announced, the design by Mr. Bochsa, and the name *Historical Records of Vocal and Instrumental Music, from the Ancient Greeks to the Present Time*. The programme is very attractive, and we only wish it had been less glaringly quackish. It begins with the "Pagan Era! 550 years before the Christian era, Pythie Ode of Pindar, as anciently sung at the Pythie Games;" of which Mr. Bochsa can know as much as of a hymn sung before the creation of the world. If, indeed, he could give us any idea of ancient Greek music, when notation was unknown, and some 2000 years before the gamut was invented, he would be a clever fellow, excelling all the commentators and scholars who have written on this perplexing subject. We wonder he did not begin with the equally familiar music of the Song of Solomon; King David dancing in buff, his Queen remonstrating, and the Jewish maidens enjoying a Park, would have been a capital scene—a *ne plus ultra*, as the programme modestly concludes. Still, with the splendid musical talent engaged on this performance, if there is only time to do well the half that is announced, it will be a great and curious treat.

Astronomy.—We are glad to see that Mr. Adams, whose great ability as an astronomical lecturer, and whose fine apparatus, are so well known to the public, commenced his Lent course for this season, at the King's Theatre, last night. Mr. James Howell occupied the Strand Theatre with the first of a similar course.

VARIETIES.

Northern Expedition.—We lament to learn that, in consequence of injury received during a severe gale, the Cove, Capt. James Ross, has been obliged to return to Stromness in Orkney, to refit. The letter announcing this misfortune is dated Feb. 5th. The Cove had reached 31° west long. and 59° 37' north lat. when she was struck by a heavy sea, which carried away her bowsprit and otherwise did her much damage.

Islington Literary and Scientific Society.—The progressive improvement and gathering of strength by such Institutions as this, is the best sign of the diffusion of knowledge, in the true acceptance of the word, viz. the acquisition of useful and sterling information. We are, therefore, well pleased to see, from the third annual report, politely sent to us, that the members now consist of 146 proprietors, 88 ordinary, and 48 resident members—in all 282. The accounts shew that the finances are flourishing; and, on the proposition for building a more suitable house for the Society, no less than about 1900*l.* was at once voluntarily and liberally subscribed for that purpose!

Copyright Act.—A motion is about to be submitted to the House of Commons for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the last copyright act, so far as relates to the giving of eleven copies of new works, &c. to various richly endowed public bodies, which ought to be the patrons and encouragers of high literary efforts, instead of preying upon them.

Edible Rocks.—Near the Ural mountains, in Siberia, a substance, called "rock meal"—powdered gypsum—is found, which the natives mix with their bread and eat. The Tartars

likewise eat the lithomarge, or rock marrow; and use rock butter as a remedy for certain disorders. — *Edinburgh Journal of Natural History.*

Professor Hoffman of Berlin died of consumption on the 9th, aged 39. Thus has been prematurely lost to the world a man of indefatigable application, and of immense literary and scientific attainments.

Royal Academy.—Mr. Gibson, the sculptor, and Mr. Cockerell, the architect, have been elected Royal Academicians in the room of Messrs. Bone and Newton, deceased.

Hunterian Theatre of Anatomy.—On Tuesday last Mr. Gregory Smith began his annual course of lectures on "Anatomy as connected with the fine arts," at this institution. Mr. Smith is a quiet and pleasing lecturer, and treats his subject with much ability. After giving a concise history of anatomy from its infancy to the present time, he described the formation of the human frame as consisting of solids and fluids; the different kinds of bone and their number; the bones of the head; and the shapes of the three classes of skull found on the earth, viz., the Ethiopian, Caucasian, and Mongolian. Altogether, there was much general information in this initiatory discourse, which gave great satisfaction to a numerous and well-pleased audience.

Improvements in Steam Navigation.—The St. George Steam-boat Company's new vessel, the *Hercules*, fitted with a pair of Mr. Samuel Hall's patent steam-engines of 180-horse power, made an excursion of several hours on Wednesday last, for the purpose of proving the engines; and the trial was completely successful. The leading object of Mr. Hall's invention, the preservation of the boilers from the injurious action of sea-water, or water containing earthy or saline matters, which occasion incrustations and rapid corrosion. In these engines the steam from the cylinders is condensed without the use of injective water, and the water resulting from such condensation is returned without admixture to the boilers, which are thus constantly fed with distilled water; and if the boilers be filled with fresh water in the first instance, the water in them will continue fresh, however long they may be in operation, and whether the engines be working at sea, or in districts where the waters are impregnated with mineral substances. An ingenious and efficient apparatus supplies any trifling loss from leakage, &c. In addition to the above-mentioned advantage, which for the purposes of steam-navigation is invaluable, it appears that a great increase of power results from the superior vacuum thus obtained, with a diminution of friction from the constant and ample lubrication of the pistons and slides, and a great saving of fuel from it being unnecessary ever to blow off, and from the boilers being kept constantly clean and free from scale. The water, also, is maintained at the proper height without attention from the engine-man, so that the risk of burning out the flues is avoided. — *Liverpool Standard.*

Geology.—In Thuringia several remarkable fossil remains have lately been discovered in blocks of free-stone (*grès*) bearing the distinct impression of the paws or feet of some large fourfooted or fourhanded animals, unknown in the present day. The inside of these paws is divided into four fingers, and a thumb reversed in a very particular manner: and before every large paw is a small paw (about a third the size) of similar shape. A curious fact is, that the four paws are disposed in a straight line, never (if we may use the word) parallelly, which

shews that the animal must have had a singular walk, and required peculiar forms, in order to preserve equilibrium in locomotion. Another curious fact is, that the impressions uniformly exist on the lower, and not on the upper faces of the blocks. The stone rests immediately on a layer of argillaceous marl, about half an inch thick, having the consistence of schistus.

Earthquake in Calabria.—On the night of October the 12th an earthquake in Calabria Ultra and Citra, levelled Castiglione, a commune in Cosenza, to the ground, and 100 out of 1200 inhabitants lost their lives. The village of Ravella was also destroyed; and there, and in Lepano, many individuals were killed. In one house a family of nine was buried under the ruins. Cosenza, the capital, was much injured, but none of the inhabitants suffered.

Comparison of Speed.—A French Scientific Journal states that the ordinary rate is per second:—

Of a man walking	4 feet.
Of a good horse in harness	12
Of a rein-deer in a sledge on the ice	26
Of an English race-horse	43
Of a hare	43
Of a good sailing ship	19
Of the wind	82
Of sound	1038
Of a 24-pounder cannon-ball	1300
Of the air, which, so divided, returns into space	1300

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Saxon Literature.—There is, we observe, arising among the French antiquaries some inclination to the study of Anglo-Saxon. M. Michel is publishing an Anglo-Saxon and Gothic Bibliography, which will contain a long and interesting letter by John Kemble, the editor of "Beowulf," on the study of Saxon in England. M. Larenandiere (vice-president, if we mistake not, of the French Society of Geography) has nearly ready a Translation of Mr. T. Wright's Paper on Anglo-Saxon Poetry, which appeared in *Fraser's Magazine*, with additions. Mr. Wright has also furnished the imprimerie royale with a design of a new Saxon type, which they have had cast, and ready for use. A similar type is preparing for an edition of the MS. Voyages of Wulfstan and Ohtere, from the Orosius of King Alfred. This is about to be done by private individuals, and accompanied by a French version.

In the Press.

The Doctrine of Atonement and Sacrifice, evinced from the Scriptures, and confirmed from the Sacraments: Errors Considered, and Difficulties of Theists and Infidels Removed, by John Whitley, D.D., author of "The Scheme, &c. of Prophecy."—The Reliques of Father Prout, late P.P. of Watergrasshill, in the county of Cork, Ireland. Collected and arranged by Oliver Yorke. Illustrated by Alfred Croquis.—The Life of John Jebb, late Bishop of Limerick, &c. with a Selection from his Letters. By the Rev. C. Foster, B.D. formerly Domestic Chaplain to Bishop Jebb.—The Greek Pastoral Poets, Theocritus, Bion, and Moschus. By M. J. Chapman, M.A.—The Elements of Latin Grammar, for Schools. By Richard Hiley, Author of an "English Grammar," &c.—The Dramatic Works of Thomas Middleton, now first collected. Edited, with Notes, &c. by the Rev. A. Dyce, B.A.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

On Insanity, its Nature, Causes, and Cure, by W. B. Neville, of Earl's Court House, 8vo. 10s. 6ds.—Basket of Fragments, or Notes from Sermons, by the Rev. Thomas Jones of Creaton, 2 vols. in 1, 2d edition, 6s. 6d. cloth.—Modern Accomplishments, or March of Intellect, by Miss C. Sinclair, post 8vo. 7s. cloth.—The Poetical Works of the Rev. Thomas Dale, M.A. 4cap 8vo. 9s. cloth.—Ben Brace, the Last of Nelson's Agamemnon, by Capt. Chamier, R.N. 3 vols. post 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d. bds.—The Diamond Florist, square 24mo. 4s. bd.—Picturesque Sketches of Ireland, from Drawings by G. Petrie, &c. Vol. I. 4to. coloured Plates, 2l. 2s. cloth.—A Grammar of the Hebrew Language of the Old Testament, by G. H. A. Ewald, translated by J. Nicholson, 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—The Life and Voyages of Capt. Cook, by the Rev. George Young, 12mo. 6s. cloth.—Mountain Melodies, &c. by Thomas Eagles, 12mo. 12s. 6d. cloth.—The Chronology of the Old Testament, by George Skene, 18mo. 3s. bds.—Cressingham Rectory, Conversations, by Eliza Anne Hendry, 12mo. 3s. cloth.—The Journal of the late Rev. George Milward, 12mo. 2s. cloth.—The Life and Poems of Cowper, by R. Southey, Esq. Vol. II. 5s. cloth.—Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks interpreted by a Layman, 12mo. 3s. bds.—The Book of Daily Family Prayer, by Bp. Mant, 12mo. 3s. bd.—Some Account of the Life and Writings of Justin Martyr, by the Bishop of

* We are happy to state, that Mr. Baily, the Royal Academician, has nearly completed a statue of this late learned and accomplished prelate, to be erected in the cathedral of the diocese of Limerick.

Lincoln, 8vo. 7s. 6d. bds.—A View of the Creation of the World, by the Rev. J. C. Burton, 8vo. 9s. bds.—The Original, by Thomas Walker, M. 2d edition, 8vo. 3s. cloth.—Acts on Law in Courts of Equity, by W. T. Emmett, Esq. 2d edition, 12mo. 7s. bds.—The Deserter, by Charlotte Elizabeth, 12mo. 4s. cloth.—The Young Man's Companion in the World, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cloth.—Heaven Ascertained, by Freeman, 18mo. 3s. cloth.—Ellen Walsingham, or Growth in Grace, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—The Sceptic, and other Poems, by Leigh Cliffe, 12mo. 5s. cloth.—Scenes in Craven, by the Rev. J. L. Armstrong, 18mo. 2s. 6d. bds.—Immanuel, the Christian's Joy, by J. G. Pike, 18mo. 2s. 6d. bds.—The Beauties of Shakespeare, English and German, 2 vols. 18mo. 9s. bds.—The Bride's Melody, or Songs within the Veil, by the Rev. J. W. Tomlinson, A.M. 12mo. 3s. cloth.—Sketches by "Boz," 2 vols. post 8vo. with 16 illustrations, by George Cruikshank, 21s. cloth.—A Treatise on the Law of Adultery Bastardy, by Sir H. Nicolas, 8vo. 21s. bds.—The Origin of the Dutch, with a Sketch of their Language and Literature, by the Rev. J. Bosworth, F.R.S. &c. royal 8vo. 5s.—Perspective Rectified, or the Principle and Application Demonstrated, by A. Farney, with 16 Plates, 4to. 12s. cloth.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1836.

February.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 11	From 30 to 40	29.91 to 30.21
Friday .. 12	27 .. 47	30.04 .. 30.08
Saturday .. 13	21 .. 41	30.25 .. 30.30
Sunday .. 14	35 .. 45	30.30 .. 30.37
Monday .. 15	34 .. 50	30.37 .. 30.36
Tuesday .. 16	34 .. 45	30.30 .. 30.30
Wednesday 17	25 .. 37	29.93 .. 29.94

Prevailing winds, N.W. and S.W. Except from the 11th to the 15th, generally cloudy, with frequent rain. A little snow on the evening of the 17th.

Rain fallen, .3 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—Mr. Willis, in his "Pencilings by the Way," making mention of Shelley's grave in the new English burying-ground at Rome, states that there is a plain slab beside it which covers some unknown person. This unknown person, however, has not as yet taken possession of his resting-place, it having been secured by an admirer of the poet, Mr. Trelawney, the well-known author. This induces me to mention another circumstance (which has never yet appeared in print), namely, the appropriation of that other unoccupied nook on the left of Shelley. I was strolling one lonely evening through that interesting inclosure of the dead, with two friends, one L—M—d, the rapidly rising sculptor; and as we were all enthusiastic worshippers of the bard, our conversation, whilst seated on his grave, naturally turned upon his death, combustion, and the deposition of his ashes. Trelawney's enthusiasm for Shelley's genius, and his securing a share in that general bank of deposit as near his idol as possible, formed the second topic; when, to my surprise, a mutual desire was expressed by my friends to obtain the other unengaged portion. The reader who has not yet made his pilgrimage to this hallowed spot, must know, that the fortunate Shelley's cinders rest in a romantic recess of the old walls of Rome, and which recess is just sufficient to afford three graves. Both B. and M. expressed at the same time a wish to monopolize this piece of sacred soil; and at length it was determined that they should toss up for it, and the loser make a present of it to the other. Accordingly, a plume was tossed into the air, and the pope's head gave to the highly delighted sculptor. Next morning, Mr. B. sent to the proper authorities, and purchased the plot; but so particular are the legal or sepulchral functionaries as regards even trifles in such matters, that M. was obliged to specify in his charter the precise number of cypress-trees which (to correspond with the other two lots) he intended planting on his property. This was confined to one;—was planted with some ceremony, and originated a private festival, which, I at least, shall religiously observe. I have only further to say, that I understand it is Mr. Trelawney's intention to raise some rich monument over Shelley's remains. I hope not. He requires none other than that he has—none other than that sweet scene which he loved so dearly, and described so well. That venerable battlement which o'erlops the limber cypress quivering at his feet, and hangs crumbling over his upreaching slab, with its simple truth, "Concordium," such a mausoleum is, to my taste, far more befitting a great man's glory, and less distracting to the contemplation of his worth and genius, than all the frippery of stone-hewers—aye, or even the storied wonders of the sculptor. J. A.

Owing to oversight, we omitted, till too late, reports of the preceding transactions of the Statistical Society in the present session. There have been two papers read: the first by Mr. Hallam, entitled, Observations on a communication made to him by Sir F. Palgrave, respecting the population of certain districts in Wilts, Kent, and Essex, in the time of Henry the Eighth; the second, an interesting Abstract of the statistics of the four electoral districts of the Dekkan in 1827-8, by Col. Sykes; similar to papers from the same able hand at the last British Association.

We are sorry that we cannot accord our young, but constant reader, Jane, with a place. She must read us a little longer before she writes.

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The Committee appointed by the general body of Subscribers to carry the design for the tribute to the memory of our venerated monarch into effect, have diligently proceeded to complete the work intrusted to them. On the eve of completing their task, a calamitous event has caused them extreme mortification, and the artist employed severe loss and distress. The nature of this will be best explained by the following resolution, unanimously agreed to—

"The Committee having thoroughly investigated the circumstances of this distressing accident are entirely convinced, that such a task and activity could have effected has been left undone by Mr. Wyatt; and that, judging from the exquisite manner in which those parts of the work have been completed which are already produced, there is every reason to believe the remaining part of the work would have been executed with equal talent and ability. We also feel it but just to Mr. Wyatt to say, that we are entirely convinced that the calamity which has occurred has been produced either by some unaccountable accident, or by some malicious design, the motive for which we do not pretend to ascribe to any person in particular."

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The Committee had previously guaranteed to the artist a larger sum than was stated in their names, and pledged themselves to do all that lay in their power to increase the subscription to an amount more adequate to the class and extent of his labours; and his recent misfortune seems to them still further to entitle him to their best exertions and to public sympathy. The expediency of producing the single part, yet wanting, and completing the whole for erection, if possible, at the period originally appointed, viz. the 4th of June, 1836, has led the Committee, in hand, or even that guaranteed (as just stated), is not one-half of the sum usually paid for similar monuments; and other considerations connected with the progress made by the artist, under many difficulties, and the local, patriotic, and grateful national feelings, which have accompanied that progress, will, they trust, tend to give efficacy to the subjoined resolution—

Resolved, That an appeal be made to Subscribers in arrears, and to the Public, to enable the Committee to augment the Subscription and erect this Statue on the 4th of June next, under the auspices of the following Noblemen and Gentlemen, who have consented to assist at the ceremony—

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